FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 025

4 February 1983

ARGENTINA

LA NACION Interviews Juan Aguirre Lanari [31 Jan] B 1
Multiparty Group Releases Document, Scores Junta B 2
Military Junta Discusses Document B 5
Pope's Delegate to Beagle Mediation, Samore, Dies B 5

BOLIVIA

'Massive' Anti-Coup Demonstrations Reported C 1
Barbie Pays Debt to Comibol, Seeks Release C 1
Reported Departing on FRC Military Plane C 1

BRAZIL

Figueiredo Recalls Interviews With Journalist D 1
Disappearance 'A Second Level Problem' D 1
SNI Clarifies Involvement [O GLOBO 1 Feb] D 1
Federal Deputies, Senators Hold Swearing-in D 2
INPI Cooperation With PRC Government Possible D 2
[O GLOBO 31 Jan]
Briefs: Ambassador to Iraq Appointed D 2

CHILE

Pinochet To Tour Southern Chile, Departs 14 Feb E 1
Odeplan Submits 1983-1989 Development Plan E 1
[LA TERCERA DE LA HORA 26 Jan]
Finance Minister Luders Discusses Foreign Debt E 2
Official Denies Arrest of PDC Leaders E 2
PCCh Issues Clandestine Document on 'Crisis' E 3
Condolences Sent, Mourning Declared for Samore E 3
Videla To Head Delegation E 3

COLOMBIA

Foreign Minister Scores Big Pine Maneuvers F 1
Official Denies Presence of U.S. Warships F 1
Nicaraguan Opposition Delegation Arrives 2 Feb F 1

ECUADOR

Official Reports on Flood Damage, Aid Operations G 1
Students Demonstrate Against Economic Measures G 1

PARAGUAY

Exiles Say 'Operation Return' Not Suspended H 1
[ABC COLOR 3 Feb]
Briefs: IDB Loan; New Radio, Television Stations H 1

PERU

Abuse of Peruvians by Ecuadoreans Noted J 1
Peru, Venezuela To Normalize Trade Relations J 1
Alva Scores Foreign Religious Orders' Broadcasts J 1
[EL COMERCIO 26 Jan]

MEXICO

De la Madrid Appeals for Detente in C.A. M 1
Welcomes UN Refugee Official M 1
Sepulveda Protests to Guatemala M 1
No 'Yield to Provocations' M 2
Refugee Camp Relocation Begins M 2
Silva-Herzog Meets With Officials in Tokyo M 3
Nicaraguan Delegation Arrives for Oil Talks M 3

PANAMA

Ministry Displeasure Over 'Big Pine' Maneuvers N 1
[MATUTINO 1 Feb]
President Declines To Meet Nicaraguan Opposition N 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Government Hails, MRP Condemns Kirkpatrick Visit P 1

EL SALVADOR

Assembly Discusses Internal Regulations P 1
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 2 Feb]
D'Aubuisson Motion Defeated [DIARIO EL MUNDO 2 Feb] P 2
Army Attempting To Protect Berlin Civilians P 2
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 2 Feb]
Garcia Says Army Planning Actions on Berlin P 3
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 2 Feb]
Army Reports Berlin Recovery P 3
Presidency Communique on Situation in Berlin P 4
Army Issues Communique on Antiguerrilla Actions P 5
Managua Reports Arrival of U.S. Marines P 5
U.S. Soldier Reported Wounded [Havana] P 6

GUATEMALA

Honduras Claims Innocence of Convicted Citizen P 6
URNG Reports on 1982 Guerrilla Activities [Havana] P 6

HONDURAS

Government 'Pleased' With Kirkpatrick Visit P 7
Paz Barnica Discounts Objections to Maneuvers P 7
Panama First Stop on Paz Barnica Tour P 8

NICARAGUA

Report on 2 Feb Demonstration at U.S. Embassy P 9
Ortega To Head Delegation to New Delhi Meeting P 9
Sergio Ramirez Analyzes Gains, Goals of Junta P 10
Eden Pastora Discusses Anti-Sandinist Strategy P 16
Clandestine Radio on Origin of 2,000 Mercenaries P 19
[Radio 15 September]
Radio Miskus States Its Purpose, Beliefs P 19

CUBA

Reagan Blamed for Tension in Caribbean Region Q 1
Station Commentary Criticizes Big Pine Maneuvers Q 2
More Commentary Q 3
Commentary Sees Salvadoran Guerrillas Winning Q 4
Havana Cites Guatemalan Army's Brutality Q 5

CARIBBEAN

BARBADOS

St. John Asks for Urgent Caricom Facility Meeting S 1

MARTINIQUE

France's Pierre Mauroy To Arrive 4 February S 1

SURINAME

Details on Major Roy Horb's Death Released U 1

LA NACION INTERVIEWS JUAN AGUIRRE LANARI

PY011414 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 31 Jan 83 pp 1, 5

[Undated interview with Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari -- in Buenos Aires]

[Text] [Question] What significance will the upcoming Group of 77 meeting in Buenos Aires have for Argentina's foreign policy?

[Answer] During the meeting, Argentina's foreign policy will confirm its firm national commitment to contribute to finding reasonable and just solutions to the serious world economic problems that are affecting the well being of developing nations, including their political stability and security. Our responsibility as hosts will be to secure a successful meeting. The results will be of interest to the industrialized countries.

[Question] Will only foreign ministers from the Group of 77 participate in the meeting?

[Answer] I sent invitations to the foreign ministers of the Group of 77 member countries some days ago. The specific reason for this meeting is that the vital interests of the developing nations have been affected by an unprecedented economic and financial crisis for the past few decades. This world crisis is marked by recession, a slump in world trade, a drastic drop in the price of raw materials and an increase in the foreign debt of the developing nations and of the Latin American nations in particular.

Above all things, this is basically a political crisis that requires political solutions. Although the experts and economists will have to propose solutions, it is also necessary that the persons responsible for the fields of international policy and trade of our countries also participate in finding solutiOns to this crisis, which could affect world peace. For this reason, many of our foreign ministers will also participate in the meeting along with our experts in international economic subjects.

[Question] What specific result is the meeting expected to have?

[Answer] The specific purpose of the meeting is to have the developing nations adopt a joint position concerning the sixth UNCTAD meeting that industrialized, communist and developing nations will hold in Belgrade in June. For this reason, the meeting in Buenos Aires is expected to have positive results, to propose high-level political solutions to the world economic crisis. On their part, industrialized countries will hold a meeting in Paris in May, which will be preparatory to the UNCTAD meeting. The ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires and the sixth UNCTAD meeting are appropriate forums for adopting specific measures aimed at reactivating the economy in keeping with the principles and objectives established by our countries. I am not saying that these are not the only forums where this can be attained, but they are the only ones that will meet this year. For this reason, we must avail ourselves of them since real and effective solutions will only be arrived at through negotiations in which we all participate. We must all help find solutions because this crisis is affecting all of us.

[Question] What is the real situation of the Cartagena meeting that you will attend?

[Answer] I will atend this meeting along with other Latin American foreign ministers. (Moments before the interview, Aguirre Lanari had been informed that his Brazilian colleague had confirmed his attendance while the media reported that Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda would also attend this meeting. The objective of the meeting in Cartagena, where I will travel on 23 February, is very specific; to coordinate what will be Latin America's position at the Group of 77 meeting in Buenos Aires. Although not all of our economic problems can be blamed on the economic crisis, it is impossible to ignore the impact that the crisis has had on Latin American countries. We must unite our efforts.

We must resist the temptation to enclose ourselves within our borders to protect ourselves. We must protect each other against third parties. We should insert our legitimate national aspirations and our bilateral relations into the wide framework provided for by LAIA (Latin American Integration Association) and SELA (Latin American Economic System), which are mechanisms at the regional level.

[Question] Could you give us an example of regional solidarity?

[Answer] Certainly. A few days ago we showed our traditional solidarity with a sister-nation and our firm Latin American tradition by refinancing Bolivia's debt. The policies we have pursued regarding the purchase of Bolivian gas is another example of economic cooperation. Moreover, we cannot overlook regional solidarity with our country during the South Atlantic conflict. The SELA support committee is a perfect example of solidarity that we shall not forget.

[Question] Sir, what relation is there between the Nonaligned Movement summit meeting to be held at the end of February and beginning of March in New Delhi -- where you will accompany President Bignone -- and the meeting of the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires?

[Answer] These are two different meetings of two different organizations that group developing countries. The Nonaligned Movement traditionally deals with political matters but this does not mean economic matters are not taken into account in debates and resolutions. On the other hand the Group of 77 deals exclusively with international economic problems but it bases its decisions on political criteria. Moreover, not all of the countries of the Group of 77 are members of the Nonaligned Movement. Argentina is active in both organizations and it hopes to take our perspectives, our interests and our style of international action to these groups. We believe it is necessary to participate from within, influencing their decisions and orientations to safeguard our legitimate interests and aspirations.

MULTIPARTY GROUP RELEASES DOCUMENT, SCORES JUNTA

PY032136 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0103 GMT 3 Feb 83.

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Feb (NA) -- Today, the multiparty Group requested "the immediate establishment of a precise electoral timetable for the return of democracy. This process is to conclude with the handing over of power no later than 12 October 1983." The Multiparty Group also claimed that the economic and social policy "seriously conditions" the country's institutionalization.

The two-page document released by the Multiparty Group tonight states that "the call for elections should be made without altering the rules provided for in the national Constitution. Moreover, the electoral system shoud guarantee the genuine participation of all the groups that reflect Argentina's political trends."

The declaration, whose dissemination was postponed on several occasions, voices the astonishment of the Multiparty Group member parties at the latest economic measures, which "reward speculation and punish production."

In the 11-point document, the Mutliparty Group requests the immediate cessation of "frequent attacks against the freedom of speech." It also requests a solution to the painful issue of the missing persons and the charges lodged against all the persons responsible for the abuses committed during the struggle to eliminate terrorism."

The document was approved at the end of a 2 and 1/2-hour meeting held by the highest-ranking leaders of the Multiparty Group tonight.

The declaration that was disseminated to the media tonight, amends five paragraphs of the draft declaration drawn up by the Multiparty Group's drafting committee.

During the meeting, which was held at the Radical Party's headquarters, the Multiparty Group leaders analyzed the military government's call for a dialogue, the electoral timetable and the electoral law. No agreement was reported to have been reached on these subjects.

The following leaders participated in the meeting: Deolindo Bittel, Torcuato Fino and Oscar Abrieu of the Peronist Party; Carlos Contin and Enrique Vaoli of the Radical Party; Oscar Alende, Miguel Monserrat, Mariano Lorences and Marcelo Arabolaza of the Intransigent Party; Francisco Cerro, Carlos Auyero, Martin Dip and Hugo Conza of the Christian Democratic Party, and Arturo Frondizi, Rogelio Frigerio and Carlos Zaffore of the Integration and Development Movement.

Here is the declaration:

"We have evaluated the country's situation from the date of the people's march for democracy and national reconstruction. The people staged this impressive and peaceful march to voice their disapproval of the regime, to demand that democratic principles prevail and for the immediate adoption of concrete changes and solutions. We have also analyzed the country's prospects and those subjects on which the Multiparty Group deems necessary to express its views.

"To begin with, Argentina's profound crisis has worsened. As we stated in the public declaration outlining the reasons for the march, the military government continues to disregard the concrete proposals made by this group, proposals which express the will of the large majority groups.

"So far, the government has neither given the explanations duly requested nor brought charges against the persons responsible for the violent police repression during the 16 December march, which ended with the murder of a young demonstrator.

"Moreover, a few weeks after this categorical claim was made, the government again tightened its economic and social policy thus increasing the people's misery, destroying the productive apparatus and seriously conditioning the country's march toward democracy

"The recently announced economic measures have caused astonishment because they seem to reward speculation and punish production, something which will aggravate the recession, unemployment, the inflation rate and the already dramatic deterioration of wages. At the same time, the government has not yet given a valid account of the reasons for the continued increase in the foreign debt figure.

"The monetary plan, which is now being burdened by the commitments made to the IMF, has served foreign interests, brought misery to the country and undermined its independent decisionmaking power.

"At the same time, the government continues to implement an authoritarian policy consisting of restrictions on the freedom of speech, evasions regarding the claims for the immediate release of all political and union detainees, insensibility toward the serious issue of the missing persons and dilatory practices concerning the deadline established or concluding the institutionalization process.

"All these facts show that above and beyond the promises made, the military regime is not giving any signs of its strong willingness to resolve the pressing and serious problems caused by its own administration. The present government is attempting to undermine the freedom of action and the prospects of the future constitutional government through levying on it an institutional, political, economic and social mortgage.

"The Multiparty Group hereby expresses its views on the situation and makes the following demands:

"1. The immediate establishment of a precise timetable for the country's institutionalization, which is to conclude with the handing over of power no later than 12 October 1983.

"2. The economic and social policy should be immediately rectified in keeping with the concrete and reconciled proposals duly made by the Multiparty Group. This rectification should pursue increasing real wages, reactivating production, finding a final solution to the unemployment problem and halting the economic causes of inflation.

"3. The labor unions should be normalized and the social welfare organizations should be restored to the workers.

"4. The call for elections should be made without altering the rules provided for it in the national Constitution and the electoral system should guarantee the genuine participation of all current political trends in Argentina.

"5. The frequent attacks against freedom of speech should stop immediately, as well as the government's evident intention to obtain future benefits out of arbitrarily granting mass media licanses.

"6. The government should resolve the painful issue of the missing persons and bring charges against the persons responsible for the abuses committed during the fight against subversion and for the systematic violation of human and constitutional rights. At the same time, the government should adopt measures to prevent these events from ever recurring.

"7. Judges should be appointed according to the Constituiton. The atmosphere of insecurity and the interference with the administration of justice and with the investigation of irregularities committed in various fields should stop.

"8. The government should discontinue the practice of selecting university professors through qualification tests, and it should not adopt any other measures aimed at conditioning the actions of the fututе constitutional government in the fields of education and culture.

"9. The government should annul the institutional acts, dismantle the repressive apparatus, lift the state of siege and restore constitutional rights.

"10. The government should urgently clarify the political, diplomatic and military aspects of the Malvinas war in order to bring charges against the responsible persons. Moreover, it should outline the strategy to recover our sovereignty over the unredeemed islands.

"11. The search for solutions to the southern border dispute with the Republic of Chile should be made under the papal mediation, respecting the principle that the two countries should have access to the two oceans [principio de division bioceanico]. Observing this principle will rule out the possibility of resorting to force and it will facilitate reaching a peaceful and satisfactory agreement. We express our gratitude for the moves made by his sanctity John Paul II.

"To conclude these views and claims, bearing in mind the Multiparty Group's origin and its work, we hereby declare that the Multiparty Group is a basic instrument for implementing reconciled programs and policies that will shape the Argentine future.

"Our is not a mere coalition of precarious electoral interests. We have firmly decided to seek consensus from all the people who live, struggle and multiply within the Argentine society.

"Our common actions are designed as a new means to counteract the highly serious problems that the country is experiencing. We will continue to carry out common actions after the elections in the hope that Argentina, whose future does not depend on one party or sector only, will be able to overcome the disagreements and march toward the future of greatness, peace and solidarity that it deserves."

Military Junta Discusses Document

PY032137 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1705 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Feb (TELAM) -- The national political situation and the document released yesterday by the Multiparty Group were the issues discussed by the commanders in chief of the three services at a meeting held today from 0900 to 1220 -- their first meeting in 1983 -- at the Libertad building, the Navy headquarters.

At the end of the meeting, which was for a while attended by Rear Adm Carlos Busser, chief of the Joint Staff, the following communique was issued:

"Lt Gen Cristino Nicolaides, commander in chief of the Army; Adm Ruben Oscar Franco, commander in chief of the Navy; and Lt Gen Augusto Jorge Hughes, commander in chief of the Air Force, met today at 0900 at the Libertad building, Navy headquarters.

"The national political situation and the Multiparty documents were discussed at the meeting."

POPE'S DELEGATE TO BEAGLE MEDIATION, SAMORE, DIES

PY031106 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1030 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Vatican City, 3 Feb (TELAM) -- A Vatican source has reported that Italian Cardinal Antonio Samore died this morning, at the age of 77, of a heart attack.

Cardinal Samore was Pope John Paul's delegate in the papal mediation in the southern border conflict between Chile and Argentina.

'MASSIVE' ANTI-COUP DEMONSTRATION REPORTED

PY030145 Paris AFP in Spanish 0139 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] La Paz, 1 Feb (AFP) -- A massive demonstration organized by the departmental Workers Federation of La Paz here today unanimously rejected coup attempts and voiced their desire to contribute to the consolidation and strengthening of the Bolivian democratic process. In the main speech made by labor leader Humberto Ochoa, he pointed out that any coup attempt or threat to the continuity of the democratic process will be rejected by all the workers.

In addition to voicing their support for the government the workers requested the establishment of a basic minimum wage and a flexible wage scale.

Eduardo Siles, member of the powerful Federation of La Paz Factories [Federacion de Fabriles de La Paz] stated that once the 100-day truce granted by the union for the reorganization of the national economy is up, the government should openly discuss with the people the workers' salary demands. Another union leader stated that we are going to defend democracy but without relinquishing the basic minimum wage.

Following other demostrations held in the interior with the purpose of supporting the democratic regime, a demostration was held in La Paz, marching by Government Palace.

Reports on coup attempts against President Hernan Siles Zuazo's administration increased after the crisis, which affected the governing Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP), was solved. The crisis was marked by the resignation of six ministers of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR).

Demonstrations supporting democracy will continue to be held in other Bolivian cities.

BARBIE PAYS DEBT TO COMIBOL, SEEKS RELEASE

PY030122 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Dr Constantino Carrion, counsel for the defense of German citizen Klaus Altmann, stated that Altmann paid off his $10,000 debt to Comibol [Bolivian Mining Corporation] at 1600 today. Comibol had filed charges against Altmann in this regard with the Comptroller General's Office.

Altmann deposited the $10,000 at the Bolivian Central Bank. Altmann's counsel for the defense stated that if the national authorities do not release Altmann immediately he will lodge a writ of habeas corpus in favor of the defendant.

At 1800 today Altmann's counsel for the defense submitted a memorandum to the Supreme Court of La Paz, requesting that the Comptroller General's Office withdraw the charges against German citizen Klaus Altmann Barbie.

Reported Departing on FRG Military Plane

PY041319 Paris AFP in Spanish 1312 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] La Paz, 4 Feb (AFP) -- According to a priviate radio station in La Paz, the Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie left Bolivia last night on board an FRG military plane. The radio station claimed that it was quoting official sources.

FIGUEIREDO RECALLS INTERVIEWS WITH JOURNALIST

Disappearance 'A Second Level Problem'

PY031759 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] President Joao Baptista de Figueiredo has decided that the National Intelligence Service [SNI] must follow the investigations regarding the disappearance of the journalist Von Baumgarten.

Planalto Palace spokesman Carlos Atila explained that the president considers the issue a second level problem. President Figueiredo admitted, however, that when he was a candidate he granted interviews to Von Baumgarten and to other journalists as well. Regarding the development of the investigations, Atila said that [words indistinct] are being carried out in Rio de Janeiro.

Navy Minister Maximiano da Fonseca also discussed the disappearance of the journalist and said that it is normal for the president of the republic to order the SNI to investigate the case. Asked whether this disappearance would tarnish the image of the Armed Forces, especially the Army, the Navy minister said that the Armed Forces have nothing to do with it. He added that this subject does not concern the army [passage indistinct].

SNI Clarifies Involvement

PY030153 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Feb 83 p 7

[Text] Brasilia, (O GLOBO) -- The Planalto Palace disclosed yesterday a note in which the SNI [National Intelligence Service] informs the public that its participation in the program to put magazine O CRUZEIRO back into circulation restricted itself to meetings between the SNI chief Gen Neston Cruz and journalist Alexandre Von Baumgarten, the owner of the magazine, who wished to solicit a share of the government publicity business given to other magazines.

Planalto spokesman Carlos Atila said that the government has nothing to add to what the official note says. The SNI note states:

"The National Intelligence Service reports that:

"1). In 1979, journalist Alexandre Vom Baumgarten sought Gen Neston Araujo de Oliveira e Cruz, the SNI chief, identifying himself as owner of the O CRUZEIRO magazine copyright. He submitted to General Cruz the project to put the magazine back into circulation. He alleged that for this project to be viable it was essential to have the same government publicity granted as to other Brazilian magazines.

"2). Under the authority invested in it, the SNI reported these facts to the proper federal organizations beginning with the then Social Communications Secretariat. The magazine received the same treatment granted to other magazines by all the government organizations, that is, it was considered a vehicle of publicity as any other magazine.

"3). On 14 January 1981, journalist Alexandre Von Baumgarten sent a registered letter to the SNI chief and a copy to chief of the SNI headquarters, both of which were received on 16 January 1981 (according to pictures of 'acknowledgment of receipt' published by the press). In this letter he only referred to financial problems that O CRUZEIRO magazine was confronting; announced his intention of selling the publishing house; and described difficulties he was confronting to make this sale.

"4). Since the questions raised in the letter were not of its competence, the SNI abstained from undertaking any action and the letter was filed away.

"5). The SNI's involvement in this affair was exclusively restricted to the initial contacts and the letter."

FEDERAL DEPUTIES, SENATORS HOLD SWEARING-IN

PY021654 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Excerpt] [Begin (Carlos Rodrigues) relay from Brasilia] The 26 senators and 479 deputies of the Federal Congress, who were elected in the 15 November elections, were sworn in on 1 February 1983 at the congress building. [end relay]

INPI COOPERATION WITH PRC GOVERNMENT POSSIBLE

PY012222 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 Jan 83 p 14

[Text] The INPI [National Institute of Industrial Property] may yet cooperate with the PRC Government for the implementation of a program for the protection of industrial property in that country. The possibility has been bolstered with the trip of INPI President Arthur Carlos Bandeira to the PRC in late January.

The INPI is already cooperating in a similar manner with the government of Paraguay, and is about to sign an agreement to that effect with Argentina. A request from the interested government and the consent of Brazilian Government officials are necessary for signing such agreements.

Three PRC technical missions visited Brazil before the INPI president's trip to the PRC, and they established the initial contacts. The PRC Government is drawing up an industrial property code and, after its approval, an organ for controlling the registration of patents will have to be created. Brazil's cooperation will be made possible under an agreement for scientific and technological cooperation which was signed by the two governments some years ago.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ APPOINTED -- Gen Alacir Frederico Werner, former chief of staff of the Armed Forces, has been appointed Brazilian ambassador to Iraq. [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Jan 83 p 5 PY]

PINOCHET TO TOUR SOUTHERN CHILE, DEPARTS 14 FEB

PY032130 Paris AFP in Spanish 0329 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Santiago, 2 Feb (AFP) -- It was disclosed today that Chilean President Augusto Pinochet will go on a 17-day tour through the southern area to learn about the socioeconomic progress and problems of three regions of this part of the country.

Businessmen, especially of the agricultural sector, are preparing a list of the issues to be discussed with the president in order to seek measures to palliate and solve the economic problems they are enduring.

The official information states that President Pinochet will start his tour, of more than 8,000 km, on 14 February and will end it on 2 March in the southern city of Punta Arenas. The president will be accompanied by the group of ministers of state. It was pointed out here that this tour will also serve to deny rumors from abroad on the alleged instability of the military regime.

ODEPLAN SUBMITS 1983-1989 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PY030202 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 26 Jan 83 p 4

[Text] The development for 1983-1989, submitted by the National Planning Office (ODEPLAN) yesterday, states that "the country will not close its economy in order to counteract the recession, because this would mean transfering funds from the export manufacturing sector to the sector engaged in manufacturing products to replace imports, a sector where Chile is not competitive."

Upon stating that "the current tariff policy will be maintain," the government document notes that returning to a closed economy "would aggravate the recession because supporting uncompetitive activities would hurt the entire country."

On laying out the measures adopted to "secure a basic balance in the national economy," the plan points to the foreign debt. According to an estimate made by Finance Minister Rolf Luders, the foreign debt totalled $17,101,000,000 on 31 December 1982. Out of this figure, $13,968,000,000 belong to medium-and long-term debts, and $3,133,000,000 to short-term debts.

The study states that now that the foreign markets "are being affected by the recession" and that the foreign debt servicing affects the balance of payments, "it is necessary to implement a monetary policy that will 'not cause' disbursements of money that will exceed the supply of money." The document states that "expanding the internal credit above and beyond the supply of money would cause a loss of international reserves instead of an increase in the amount of circulating money."

One of the immediate objectives contemplated by the development plan is to reduce the rate of unemployment to 15 percent during July-September 1983, and to 10 percent during July-September 1984.

In the industrial and financial fields, the Odeplan document proposes to "identify and liquidate nonprofitable enterprises, that is, enterprises that are sustaining operational losses."

To attain this objective, the document recommends making long-term studies on the income and costs of enterprises, since it is believed that some of the enterprises currently rated as "nonprofitable" are capable of recovering in the future.

FINANCE MINISTER LUDERS DISCUSSES FOREIGN DEBT

PY031819 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Negotiations concluded last week with international banks guaranteed the inflow of resources needed for the country to maintain its normal level of economic activities, said Finance Minister Rolf Luders replying to questions from journalists. Minister Luders said that contacts will have to be made with a broader group of foreign banks with which Chile maintains relations, adding that at this meeting information will be provided to them on the reasons for the intervention and liquidation of some Chilean banks by the government, the government's economic plan and financial needs. Financial needs basically refer to rescheduling of medium- and long-term loan principal repayments coming due in 1983 and 1984, to renewing short-term credits and to securing new credits for approximately $900 million.

Replying to another question, Minister Luders indicated that in the next few days he will probably travel to the United States, Japan and Europe precisely to make contacts. Luders also said that the 3-month moratorium on servicing the foreign debt means that national banks, and public and private financial sectors can postpone amortizations for 90 days until 1-to-10 April.

The finance minister noted that the international banks' interest is for Chile to have a consistent economic program which is responsible and properly managed. Consequently, the minister added, the Central Bank will keep an eye on financial management to make sure that it is correct and to make sure that Chilean banks make payments on time.

Regarding the debt of conglomerates, Luders stated that it is understood that direct relations between companies and foreign banks will be maintained. Luders said that the most important thing about the talks held last week in New York with foreign bankers is having ensured the necessary inflow of resources which will permit us to maintain a level of economic activity leading to a growth rate that, despite everything, should be positive by year's end. [passage indistinct]

The minister finally said that the present inflow of resources makes it possible for us to look calmly to the next 3 months

OFFICIAL DENIES ARREST OF PDC LEADERS

PY021840 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Relay from Government House by (Graciela Contreras)]

[Excerpt Interior Ministry Under Secretary (Ramon Suarez) categorically denied today that members of the dissolved Christian Democracy are under house arrest.

Rumors that circulated throughout the morning stated that (Gabriel Valdez) and (Belisario Velazco) are reportedly under house arrest.

When government house journalists asked him about this rumor this afternoon at about 1300, the Interior Ministry under secretary answered that this rumor is completely false.

Meanwhile, President Pinochet resumed his vacation outside the city, but he will continue to look after government matters that need his personal attention.

PCCh ISSUES CLANDESTINE DOCUMENT ON 'CRISIS'

PA031720 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The Chilean Communist Party [PCCh] has denounced the serious political, economic, social and moral crisis of Gen Augusto Pinochet's regime and has exhorted the people to prepare for any eventuality. In a clandestine document being circulated in Chile, the outlawed political organization noted that neither the weapons supplied by Ronald Reagan; the juggling maneuvers of Rolf Luders, the Chilean economy, development reconstruction and finance minister; nor any other repressive measures will save the tryanny.

The Chilean Marxists seek the unity of all opposition forces and underline that the policy of excluding the Communist Party is being thwarted with the struggle of its members in the schools, factories and streets of Santiago.

Finally, the PCCh proposes the creation of a transition government following Pinochet's overthrow, to convoke a constituent assembly and permit the people to decide the country's future through free elections.

Other dispatches report that unions in various parts of the country have expressed support for the 3-week strike to demand wage increases called by the 1,500 workers of the Colbun Machicura hydroelectric projects, now under construction.

CONDOLENCES SENT, MOURNING DECLARED FOR SAMORE

PY031831 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Relay from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpt] President Augusto Pinochet sent a personal note this morning to Pope John Paul expressing the profound feelings of sorrow of the Chilean people and government over the death of Cardinal Antonio Samore this morning in Italy.

President Pinochet was briefed about this regrettable event just as the news reached Chile. He expressed his profound grief for the death of this illustrious church dignitary. Samore, the papal representative to the southern conflict mediation between Chile and Argentina, has held this post since 1979.

Interior Ministry Under Secretary (Ramon Suarez) also stated at 1300 today that the national government has decreed official mourning on Monday.

Videla To Head Delegation

PY031829 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] The Chilean delegation to attend the funeral of Cardinal Samore will reportedly leave this afternoon. It was reported at the Foreign Ministry that this delegation will reportedly be headed by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary and head of the Chilean delegation to the mediation Col Ernesto Videla.

FOREIGN MINISTER SCORES BIG PINE MANEUVERS

PA030409 Paris AFP in Spanish 2202 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Bogota, 2 Feb (AFP) -- The joint Honduran-U.S. military maneuvers being held near the Nicaraguan border "in no way contribute to achieving peace in that strife-torn region," Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caiceda said here today.

Lloreda declined, however, to describe the maneuvers as an act of provocation, but noted that they can increase the existing tensions in Central America and the Caribbean.

The minister recalled that at the 9 January foreign ministers meeting on the Panamanian island of Contadora, the countries involved in the crisis were urged to abstain from carrying out actions of this kind.

Finally, he said that the opinion of the four governments at the Contadora meeting -- Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, and Colombia -- was to prevent any gesture which could heighten the conflictive climate in that strife-torn region.

OFFICIAL DENIES PRESENCE OF U.S. WARSHIPS

PA011918 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Jan 83

[Text] Santa Marta -- The governor of La Guajira Department has denied that U.S. warships are patrolling Colombia's waters in this region. Governor (Eduardo Lacotier Cuello) said that rumors that have been circulating to this effect have no basis in fact.

The governor said that the ships which have been sighted could belong to smugglers, who are active in great numbers in that sector, as they are all along the coast, but that the ships are not military.

The governor said that patrol boasts dispatched to search the waters along the coast have sighted no warships of any nationality.

NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION DELEGATION ARRIVES 2 FEB

PA022302 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Bogota -- Members of the Democratic Coordinating Board of Nicaragua, which is made up of political leaders and representatives of that country's business and industrial sectors, arrived in Colombia this afternoon in search of continental solidarity for a democratic opening in Nicaragua.

The delegation includes Adan Fletes, president of the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party; Luis Rivas Leiva, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party [title as heard]; Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro, founder of the Social Christian Party; and Carlos Huembes, secretary general of the Nicaraguan Workers Federation.

The Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board, which is coming from Caracas, will go to Panama on Friday and later to Costa Rica on Saturday.

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON FLOOD DAMAGE, AID OPERATIONS

PA012252 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The rough weather on the Ecuadorean coast, which has grown worse in the last few hours has destroyed property worth 6 billion sucres. President Hurtado, his ministers and a number of government officials who are active in this emergency met this morning to assess the current situation in the coastal provinces that have been declared in a state of emergency, as well as the effect of the measures that have been taken and of those that might be. They also met to discuss the credit that is to be requested, particularly from the IDB.

Ernesto Alban Gomez, the government's major spokesman, announced the agreements that were reached at this high-level meeting at a news conference. He said that some $100 million will be requested as a loan from the IDB. In addition, the feasibility of requesting credit from other international organizations, such as the Andean Development Corporation, is currently being considered.

[Begin Alban Gomez recording] It has been established that some 40,000 families have been affected to date. These families will have to be fed for about 3 months, at an overall cost of 168 million sucres. The world food program will help with food for 20,000 families. In other words, 50 percent of the families can be aided by this FAO program. The Red Cross will take care of 5,000 families, the Brethren organization would take care of another 5,000 families. Enprovit [National Enterprise for Vital Products], the institution charged with organizing and coordinating all of this assistance, would aid the remaining 10,000 families directly.

The agriculture minister has also reported on the agricultural situation as a result of the floods. Perhaps some figures can reveal the scope of the situation. It has been estimated that losses from unharvested crops have affected 56,000 hectares, while losses due to unplanted crops have affected 60,000 hectares. These are the Agriculture Ministry's current figures. Naturally, the flooded area, the zone seriously affected by the floods, is somewhat larger, but not all of it is planted, nor has all of it been affected in terms of agricultural activity.

According to the Ministry, some 220,000 hectares have been seriously affected by the floods. In addition, the rains and floods have caused lesser damage to hundreds of thousands of hectares. According to Ministry estimates, the losses in the agricultural sector so far total about 2.4 billion sucres. [end recording]

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST ECONOMIC MEASURES

PA030545 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Intensive demonstrations were carried out today along 10 de Agosto Avenue and in the area around the Mejia National Institute. Students from various schools in the capital placed themselves at the main intersections of the avenue and shouted slogans denouncing the possible new economic measures (?as well as) against the terms set by the IMF, the high social cost of which have generated fear of new prices and measures to stabilize the currency.

The student demonstrations made it necessary to divert traffic, causing a traffic jam worse than usual. Police observed the student demonstrations from a prudent distance and periodically used tear gas to disperse the groups. The director of the Mejia Institute told this newscast that from early morning, when classes normally began, unidentified students placed themselves in front of the building and eventually created this climate of unrest in the street.

EXILES SAY 'OPERATION RETURN' NOT SUSPENDED

PY031351 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 Feb 83 p 6

[Text] Dr Hermes Rafael Saguier, representative of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] in Buenos Aires, stated yesterday during a telephone conversation with this newspaper, that "'Operation Return' will not be suspended, because the official decision against our return confirms our theory that the Paraguayan Government is nothing more than a dictatorship."

On learning the official government decision not to allow the return to the country of the "Operation Return" participants, Dr Saguier stated, on behalf of the organizers of the operation, that the trip will not be suspended for that reason, but on the contrary, that they are already thinking of another future "Operation Return."

Dr Saguier, who was detained in Asuncion and then expelled from the country as a result of the previous "Operation Return," reported that the delegation will be made up of the following persons: Waldino Ramon Lovera, Captain Eduardo Sardi (retired), Antonio Gonzalez Prieto, Candido Andres Ortiz, Anibal Florentin Pena and possibly Sandino Gil Oporto, Domingo Laino, Luis Alfonso Resk, Hermes Rafael Saguier and Ricardo Esperanza Leiva, of the Paraguayan Workers Federation [CPT] in exile.

Asked about the agenda to be carried out in Asuncion if their return is allowed, Saguier stated that through the national accord they have asked for a meeting with Asuncion Archbishop Ismael Rolon scheduled for Sunday. Then they intend to hold a press conference and then pay homage to the heroes at the national pantheon.

Regarding the possibility that they will be accompanied by Argentine and Brazilian politicians, Saguier stated that several members of the Argentine Radical Civic Union and of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party have volunteered to accompany the "Operation Return" participants, but that the exiles considered it unnecessary as they also considered unnecessary the company of reporters since several correspondents from the international press are already in Ascuncion.

Finally, the exiled politician reported that the "Operation Return" organizers will hold a press conference tomorrow at 1900 at the site of the Christian Democratic Party headquarters in Buenos Aires.

BRIEFS

IDB LOAN -- The IDB has granted a $500,000 loan to the national workers bank. The loan will be earmarked for a project that will render technical assistance and credit to craftsmen in Guaira and Cordillera Departments [Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 1530 GMT 26 Jan 83 PY]

NEW RADIO, TELEVISION STATIONS -- Dr Ramon Centurion Nunez, president of the INC -- Paraguayan Cement Industry -- has reported that a radio station and a television station will soon start operating in Valle-Mi. The radio station will operate with the call sign ZP 29, while the television station, which will not be a relay station, will have a range of 80 to 100 km, reaching even Brazilian territory. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 9 Jan 83 p 23 PY]

ABUSE OF PERUVIANS BY ECUADOREANS NOTED

PY022057 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] A former navy officer has been whipped by Ecuadorean soldiers in the border town of (Huachilla).

The former naval officer was whipped 41 times -- one per each year of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol -- with a piece of wire.

It was also reported in Tumbes that two other Peruvians are under arrest in an Ecuadorean barrack.

PERU, VENEZUELA TO NORMALIZE TRADE RELATIONS

PY032047 Paris AFP in Spanish 0243 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Lima, 2 Feb (AFP) -- In keeping with efforts to reactivate the Andean Pact, Peru and Venezuela have decided to normalize their trade relations. This statement is part of a declaration signed here today on Gonzalo de la Puente, the Peruvian minister of industry, tourism and integration and Sebastian Allegret, president of the Venezuelan Foreign Trade Institute.

The document states that both parties commit themselves to carrying out within the framework of the Cartagena Agreement all kinds of public and private negotiations and agreements designed to normalize trade between the two countries.

After stating that respective works in joint meetings have already started, the declaration adds that the Peruvian chapter of the Peruvian-Venezuelan Chamber for Integration and Promotion of Exports -- which will be charged with promoting trade and industrial relations -- is already being organized.

The declaration concludes by emphasizing the important participation of the private and business sectors from both countries in the operation and development of the Andean group, which recently created committees for business and workers.

ALVA SCORES FOREIGN RELIGIOUS ORDERS' BROADCASTS

PY031331 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Jan 83 p a-4

[Excerpt] Peruvian Second Vice-President and Senator Javier Alva Orlandini supported yesterday the revelation made by the chief of state that members of foreign religious orders are egging people on to violence, adding that they do so over radio stations owned by those orders in the country's interior, taking up topics which are the exclusive concern of Peruvians.

Orlandini, however, said that he was convinced that the Catholic Church as an institution "is not involved in the task of inciting violence."

He also referred to the case of several radio stations managed by members of foreign religious orders in southern departments which "are carrying on an intense campaign directed at fomenting violence, strikes and stoppages."

After exempting Radio Santa Rosa which operates in Lima, Orlandini said that substantiating his assertion is easy because the programs can be recorded.

DE LA MADRID APPEALS FOR DETENTE IN C.A.

Welcomes UN Refugee Official

FL031407 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0321 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- It is necessary to work for detente in the Central American region and to set in motion a true peace offensive, President Miguel de la Madrid stated today.

In welcoming Mr Poul Hartling, UN high commissioner for refugees, at the National Palace, the chief executive said the first step within the framework of detente in the area from where the refugees are coming would be the cooperation of that country's authorities.

Miguel de la Madrid reiterated that Mexico would continue to observe inalterably its tradition of assistance to the protection of the refugees as well as enforce all types of measures aimed at guaranteeing the security and well-being of refugee camps.

For his part, Poul Hartling said Mexico must be considered to be an example to the world world for the humanitarian spirit with which it welcomes and offers protection to the refugees. Likewise, he thanked the country for the cooperation being observed with the office of the UN high commissioner for refugees residing in Mexico.

Sepulveda Protests to Guatemala

FL030300 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Jan 83

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor today demanded that the Guatemalan Government ensure nonviolation of the common border and respect for Mexico's territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

During a private meeting with Guatemalan Ambassador Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro which lasted less then 1 hour, Sepulveda Amor raised the need for Guatemalan authorities to clarify the raid into national territory by two armed contingents, presumably from that Central American country.

The Mexican foreign secretary pointed out that an investigation conducted by the Intersecretariat Commission for Aid to Refugees [Comision Intersecretarial de Ayuda a Refugiados] revealed that last Wednesday and Thursday two armed contingents crossed into the municipality of Trinitaria, Chiapas.

He said the evidence points to a deplorable incident.

On 26 January, some 100 persons in civilian clothes and military uniforms entered the Rancho El Rosario camp in Santiago del Vartice and on Thursday, 27 February, entered La Hamaca, both in La Trinitaria, killed four refugees and kidnapped another.

The ambassador promised the Mexican secretary he would convey the matter to his government. Two days ago, Mendez Montenegro held a press conference where he maintained that Guatemalan troops never entered Mexican territory and said: Mexican authorities should come up with proof of these acts.

Sepulveda Amor asked that responsibility for these acts be fixed and demanded proper guarantees that the Guatemalan Government will implement the necessary measures to prevent a repetition of these incidents.

Meanwhile, Rafael Macedo asked Mexican Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola to raise the matter in the same terms.

No 'Yield to Provocations'

FL031405 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2317 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- The Permanent Committee of the Congress of the Union today stressed that Mexico must not yield to provocations that might get the country involved in political conflicts such as the problem which has arisen on the border with Guatemala.

During today's session of the committee, made up of representatives of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, Senator Patrocinio Gonzalez Blanco urged the Central American countries and the international community to support the peace initiatives because of their effect throughout the world.

On behalf of the Permanent Committee, Gonzalez Blanco stressed that the country must not yield to provocations because to do otherwise would affect the government's moral principles in actions aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the Central American problem.

He warned that the incidents that have been occurring on the country's southern border threaten stability and peace in Central America. He noted that for this reason the Congress of the Union maintains that the principles of the Mexican foreign policy must not be abandoned.

He pointed to the need to contribute to detente, dialogue and negotiations in the face of meddling actions which further deteriorate conflictive situations. He noted that the country must uphold its policy of respect for the principles of non-intervention, the people's self-determination and the right to asylum, as well as its support for peace initiatives.

In addition, Deputy Hector Ramirez Cuellar of the opposition's Popular Socialist Party (PPS) asked Congress to condemn the military maneuvers on the Nicaraguan border with Honduras being carried out by the Honduran and U.S. Governments.

He said that these actions further complicate and deteriorate the problems of the region and, for this reason, he reiterated the need for a political dialogue and for full respect for the free self-determination of Central America.

Refugee Camp Relocation Begins

PA040416 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City -- The 32 Guatemalan refugees camps, which have been set up along the 800-km Mexican-Guatemalan border, will be relocated. They will be moved deep into Mexican territory, according to information given by the Mexican Commission to Aid Refugees [Comision Mejicana de Ayuda a los Refugiados -- COMAR].

From 1 February to date, some 4,000 refugees have been relocated from the areas of La Hamaca, La Sombre and (Santiago el Vertice), where the recent incursions of Guatemalan soldiers took place.

COMAR members said that the relocation is underway because they fear new incursions by Guatemalan soldiers will take place. They also said that the relocation will occur according to the ability to set up new camps.

SILVA-HERZOG MEETS WITH OFFICIALS IN TOKYO

FL022230 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2050 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Tokyo, 2 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Key representatives of Japanese financial institutions have assured Jesus Silva-Herzog, Mexico's secretary of finance and public credit, they will continue to cooperate in resolving Mexico's financial and economic problems.

A spokesman for the Mexican Embassy in Tokyo said Silva-Herzog met today with the director of Japan's central bank, Haruo Maekawa; Deputy Finance Minister (Watanebe) and officials of the Sumitomo Bank, Mitsubishi and Nomura Finance Corporation; Silva-Herzog expressed the Mexican Government's appreciation for the assistance they provided during its time of financial crisis.

Above all, they discussed Japanese participation in a bank consortium plan which would provide Mexico with loans equivalent to $5 billion.

According to the Mexican Embassy spokesman, Silva-Herzog decided to cut his visit short by 2 days. His visit had been scheduled to end this Sunday. The spokesman said the finance secretary had made this decision in order to return to his country on Saturday 5 February, the anniversary of the promulgation of the Mexican Constitution.

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR OIL TALKS

PA012003 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Mexico City -- A Nicaraguan delegation headed by Deputy Finance Minister William Hupper started talks today with high Mexican Government officials on the continuation of the oil agreement signed by the two countries.

Deputy Minister Hupper said that any type of aid to finance oil bills is very important now that Nicaragua is suffering from the drop in the prices of its main exports. The talks will continue tomorrow.

The agricultural agreement by which Mexico grants technical advice and financing to agro-food industries will also be discussed.

MINISTRY DISPLEASURE OVER 'BIG PINE' MANEUVERS

PA011533 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 1 Feb 83 pp 1-A, 6-A

[Text] Panamanians are concerned and disenchanted over the announcement that the United States and Honduras will hold joint military maneuvers starting the first week of February in Central American territory.

The maneuvers, which are called "BIG PINE" [capitalized as published] and will involve 4,000 Honduran troops and 900 U.S. military advisers, have been described by a Foreign Relations Ministry spokesman who asked not to be identified as a warlike ingredient that contributes to a further heightening of tension in the strife-torn Central American region.

Bearing in mind that these military exercises are the largest of their type to be held in Central America, and that their objective involves areas at the border between Honduras and Nicaragua, the Foreign Ministry spokesman reiterated that this type of activity only helps destroy "the shaky peace" in Central America.

The spokesman recalled the position that Panama adopted at the recent ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau and at the meeting of the foreign ministers of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama that was held on Panama's Contadora Island, in the Pacific.

The spokesman recalled that Panama reiterated at the Managua meeting its peaceful stance and its "unavoidable commitment to work tirelessly and in conjuction with any friendly country wishing to work for the benefit of an immediate and permanet pacification of the strife-torn Central American isthmus."

The source stressed that during the meeting of foreign ministers on Contadora Island, Panama concurred with the conclusion that it was "highly undesirable" to include the Central American conflict within the context of the East-West confrontation.

Finally, the Foreign Ministry spokesman quoted the statement made by Panamanian Foreign Relations Minister Juan Jose Amado III to the effect that Panama disapproves of the use of military bases in Panama for purposes other than those stipulated in the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

PRESIDENT DECLINES TO MEET NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION

PA291931 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Jan 83

[Text] Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella will not meet with a delegation of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board, made up by that country's opposition sectors, according to a reliable source in Panama. The source did not reveal the reason why the meeting scheduled for this afternoon will not be held.

The delegation, made up of representatives of three political parties, two labor unions and the Nicaraguan private enterprise, is currently on a tour of Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and Costa Rica. The delegation is trying to get official support for what they term the process of democratization of Nicaragua and Central America.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT HAILS, MRP CONDEMNS KIRKPATRICK VISIT

PA040211 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] U.S. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick's visit to our country tomorrow afternoon is very important and valuable to the efforts to strengthen democracy in the region, said Foreign Minister Fernano Volio Jimenez. U.S. President Ronald Reagan visited us just over 1 month ago and as his special envoy she comes to confirm that the U.S. Government is interested in strengthening the democratization of Central America, added Volio Jimenez.

There is no doubt that Ambassador Kirkpatrick's intellectual caliber and political knowledge make here visit valuable for our country and for the region, said the foreign minister. The personal message that U.S. President Ronald Reagan is sending to the region's democratic rulers via the UN ambassador is a reaffirmation of the U.S. Government's position toward these countries.

Although the content of the message is unknown, it was reported in government circles that it is surely a reaffirmation of U.S. determination to help solve the problems of these countries following Reagan's visit to the area last November. The fact that the president is sending a person of Ambassador Kirkpatrick's intellectual and political caliber demonstrates that President Reagan wants to help the Central American countries, the official added.

Meanwhile, the announced visit to Central America of Jeane Kirkpatrick has caused deep concern among the region's democratic and popular forces of the region, said the political commission of the People's Revolutionary Movement, MRP. Jeane Kirkpatrick represents of the most sinister forces that promote forceful solutions to the Central American conflict, the MRP added. Her arrival comes at a time when the Salvadoran people are dealing strong military blows to the repressive army and making advances while the U.S. Government is losing the international political battle, said the MRP.

EL SALVADOR

ASSEMBLY DISCUSSES INTERNAL REGULATIONS

PA030437 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 2 Feb 83 pp 3, 22

[Excerpts] There were three recesses in yesterday's session of the Constituent Assembly which unsuccessfully tried to legalize Thursday's actions when the assembly confirmed the appointment of the health minister and drafted a decree establishing that the presence of four rather than five members of the leadership is enough for a quorum of the leadership.

The last recess was caused by a stroke suffered by Dr Luis Nelson Segovia, deputy of the Democratic Action, AD. Dr Segovia was stricken as he was addressing the assembly.

The assembly first met at 0900. Assembly President Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson told the session that the strength of the Constituent Assembly was being undermined by carrying out actions that are illegal.

D'Aubuisson said that if they did not decide to do things correctly, the four members of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, Arena, in the leadership, including himself, would resign.

Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes of the Christian Democratic Party said that he thought that the legality or illegality of Thursday's session should be decided by the Supreme Court. "We cannot ratify something that is correct," he said. He explained that the only ratification that could be done would be to read the record of the previous session.

Deputy Luis Nelson Segovia then spoke. He began his speech calmly. He said that Thursday's session had been conducted in a dignified way. He recognized that the assembly's internal regulations were reformed in that session and asked that the reform be firmly maintained in yesterday's session. Segovia then began to stammer and sounded like a bad recording and then became silent. Medical doctors among the deputies immediately went to his aid. The doctor said that he had suffered a light stroke and facial paralysis.

Other deputies later said that Segovia has received anonymous threats against his life and that he has even received a death threat over the telephone at his seat in the assembly.

D'Aubuisson Motion Defeated

PA032041 San Salvador DIARIO EL MUNDO in Spanish 2 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] The Constituent Assembly today rejected a motion by its president, Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, who was absent to nullify the plenary session held on 27 January and to address in today's session what was approved in the 27 January sessions.

Major d'Aubuisson convened the session at 1020, and expressed his desire not to preside today, because he did not want to give approval with his presence to an act that he viewed in every light as illegal, childish, and incorrect. After saying this, he left Hugo Carrillo in charge of the presidency of the assembly.

The sessions continued, and then Deputy Guevara Lacayo proposed that the motion, presented by the deputy president, be rejected "because there is no sense or legal basis in discussing again the points that have already been approved." A recess was called to exchange views on the motion, and at 1100 the plenary session was reconvened, at which time Deputy Guevara Lacayo's proposal was submitted to debate and was approved with 37 votes. Seventeen deputies of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, Arena, voted for the president's motion, while the deputy of the Salvadoran Popular Party, PPS, abstained from voting.

In today's sessions, order prevailed in the galleries, and the National Police searched all persons who entered, on instructions of the deputies of Democratic Action, the Christian Democratic Party, the National Conciliation Party and independent persons. D'Aubuisson briefly said that he will probably leave the presidency but will not leave the assembly, but that this decision is not of an immediate nature. Tomorrow (Thursday) EL MUNDO will offer in-depth coverage of the developments today in the assembly, because for reasons of time and the deadline for today's edition we have only been able to offer this advance report.

ARMY ATTEMPTING TO PROTECT BERLIN CIVILIANS

PA030400 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 2 Feb 83 pp 5, 22

[Excerpts] Official sources have told journalists that armed forces are being extremely cautious in Berlin to avoid further endangering the civilian population, which has already suffered heavily from the vandalic actions of subversive groups.

It was reported that army troops are carrying out an operation to protect civilians on Berlin's outskirts. Not many details were given because, the sources said, the main objective is to avoid further jeopardizing the civilians held by the terrorists, who are using them, particularly women and children, as protection.

Reporters were told by residents fleeing Berlin that when the subversives attacked the town on Saturday and Sunday the population was being guarded by a detachment of from 110 to 120 soldiers and civil defense members.

Reporters covering these actions were able to learn that the Escalante Acevedo operation which is being carried out in northern Morazan Department continues with the same intensity as planned. That is to say, the number of troops deployed in that area remains unchanged, except for some casualties which have been reported.

As for the armed forces' casualties in Berlin, it was originally reported that there were four dead, seven wounded and an undetermined number of missing troops.

GARCIA SAYS ARMY PLANNING ACTIONS ON BERLIN

PA030419 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 2 Feb 83 p 5

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia has told reporters that "the army is preparing unspecified actions to deal with the situation in the city of Berlin."

"We are preparing appropriate actions to satisfactorily resolve Berlin's situation in the next few hours as the armed forces should do," he said.

Yesterday the army tried to send two columns of reinforcements, but according to military sources, they were repelled in ambushes in Mercedes Umana, some 9 km north of Berlin, on the Pan-American Highway.

Report indicate that this is the first time in 3 years of war that the terrorists have been able to seize and retain a city like Berlin which in 1979 had about 30,000 residents, a number that has been reduced by almost half after people fled that strife-torn area.

A column of black smoke could be seen several kilometers away from Berlin during the worst part of the fighting. However, it was not clear whether the fire was caused by the air bombing or the extremists.

Army Reports Berlin Recovery

PA032133 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization; communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Office, read by Col (Marco Aurelio Gonzalez), date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] The Armed Forces Recovers Berlin

Early this morning the armed forces recovered Berlin in Usulutan Department. Since Saturday, that city had been under heavy attack by terrorist subversive groups.

Following the heavy fighting around the city it was learned that the army had suffered 3 dead and 12 wounded. These figures do not include the casualities previously reported or the number of civilians killed. Berlin looks like a desolate place because of the damage by the subversive groups that burned more than four manzanas where government offices and private businesses were located.

When the terrorists entered the city on Sunday morning they attacked with 81-mm and 120-mm mortars, bazookas and RPG-2 rocket launchers. They also looted and stole from many stores and homes in the area.

The armed forces immediately prepared an operation to protect the residents of Berlin. Measures were taken to prevent any action that would endanger the area's residents. The operation was a success. The subversives fled in several directions.

To expand the information, the Berlin military authorities call on all displaced residents to return to their regular activities. The army is ready and willing to give the the necessary support and protection to those who return to the urban area of Berlin.

PRESIDENCY COMMUNIQUE ON SITUATION IN BERLIN

PA032356 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization; official communique issued 2 February by the Presidency Secretariat of Information -- recorded]

[Text] In face of the Armed Forces' operations in Berlin, the subversive groups who had occupied the city have begun fleeing toward San Agustin. The city of Berlin has been disrupted since Saturday when the terrorists attacked. It was reported that the military operations are being carried out very cautiously to protect the civilian residents who are virtually captives of the terrorists. It was announced that the armed forces will solve the problem without endangering the lives of the people of Berlin who are experiencing very difficult moments especially because of the looting and destruction by the subversives and the common criminals that the terrorists released from prison.

Forced Meetings for Propaganda Purposes

Some of those who were able to escape said that the invaders, weapons in hand, had forced the people to attend a meeting during which they attempted to indoctrinate the people so that they would join their subversive movement. Nevertheless, although they were scared, those present just listened. Some of the terrorists forced some youths to wear red and black neckerchiefs and to smile and raise their arms so that the camermen near the city's amphitheater could photograph them and use this as propaganda abroad portraying them as youths who had joined the cause. Once the photographs were taken the youths were allowed to leave but first they were threatened with the fact that they could now be identified as subversives.

People Escape

Reporters who were able to enter the strife-torn area saw people walking along the road to Mercedes Omana and San Francisco Javier. They were carrying the few belongings they were able to save after the looting to which Berlin was subjected by the subversives.

Sadness and Desolation But With Hope and Faith

The faces of the people of Berlin show sadness and desolation because of the trauma the extremist hordes forced them to endure. Berlin has now become a martyr city. The disaster caused by the subversives is touching. A large part of the business district was completely destroyed by fires set by the subversives who, in view of the people's rejection, became vengeful and left behind a horrible scene of grief and destruction.

According to the opinions and statements gathered from some people of the area, they have hope and faith as well as the security that the armed forces will definitely solve the problem and everything will return to normal.

Meanwhile, in Morazan, the advance continues. While the army carries out its operation in Berlin to dislodge the extremists, in northern Morazan, officers and soldiers of the 3d Military Zone and 3d Infantry Brigade, with units of the Atlacatl, Atonal and Ramon Belloso battalions, continue their advance to rescue towns in an extraordinary attempt that has brought joy and trust to the residents of the area.

ARMY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON ANTIGUERRILLA ACTIONS

PA032049 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 2130 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] The area north of San Francisco Gotera is under armed forces control.

After several days of pacification actions by the Salvadoran Armed Forces, the residents of Chilanga, Lolotiquillo, Cacaopera, Yoloaiquin, Delicias de Concepcion, Osicala, (Elocacsis), San Simon, San Isidro, El Rosario, Jocoaitique, Arambala, Joateca, Torola, San Fernando and nearby villages, besieged by subversive bands, can now work normally. From information gathered in the area we have learned that the army made the terrorists flee. Some fled north and others to the east.

We report on the dismantling of the following subversive camps: La Guacamaya, Pando hill, Tenidero hill, Meanguera jurisdiction; El Mozote, Planes del Volcancillo, (Loma de la Mesa), Jocoaitique jurisdiction; Planes del Zapotal, El Zapote, Joateca jurisdiction. During the dismantling of the camps it is believed that 220 subversives were killed. A wide variety of materiel was found. There were weapons, equipment, ammunition. Other materiel found included a repeating station for a clandestine radio with a directional antenna as well as a weapons repair and explosive manufacturing shop. In several different areas and at the camps four clandestine medical clinics were found. These clinics were equipped with medical equipment for first aid. Staples such as corn, rice, beans, milk, oil and many other goods stolen from the residents of the region were also found; weapons and ammunition were recovered.

The armed forces regrets the loss of 17 soldiers who died heroically. We guarantee the continuity of our search actions throughout the area.

MANAGUA REPORTS ARRIVAL OF U.S. MARINES

PA032012 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] San Salvador -- Confidential sources have confirmed that a large contingent of U.S. Marines arrived last week with the mission of safeguarding certain U.S. residents in El Salvador. During these past days, intensive activity has been observed at the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador.

Likewise, it has been learned that Ambassador Deane Hinton has repeatedly met with leaders of the rightwing political parties, members of the Armed Forces High Command and U.S. Marines in El Salvador. Political observers said that the arrival of these marines took place after the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador denied it has recommended that U.S. citizens who live there should abandon the country.

U.S. Soldier Reported Wounded

PA041300 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Feb 83

[Text] After achieving their military and political objectives, the FMLN guerrilla forces withdrew from Berlin. They had occupied that important city in Usulutan Department since Monday.

Radio Venceremos, a clandestine radio station, reported that hundreds of youths in Berlin joined the insurgents, whose armed detachments withdrew in an orderly manner to other parts of the northeastern sector of El Salvador. Before departing, the rebel forces turned over 47 captured soldiers to the national Red Cross.

Other reports indicate that U.S. Sgt Maj James Stanley was injured in the upper thigh as the helicopter in which he was travelling flew over a stretch of the Pan-American Highway in Usulutan.

The U.S. Embassy in San Salvador reported that Stanley was checking into communications problems at a bridge in the area. However, other reports indicate that the helicopter attacked a rebel patrol, which responded with a steady burst of machinegun fire.

It has also been reported that some 6,000 government troops have begun to withdraw from Morazan. They had attempted unsuccessfully to carry out a large-scale offensive against rebel positions there. For 17 days, the dictatorship's troops remained bogged down and practically under siege in San Francisco Gotera, capital of Morazan.

Army Col Domingo Monterrosa has admitted that the guerrillas control a large part of Chalatenango and Morazan Departments, as well as over 1/3 of Usulutan Department, and described the military situation in that area as being difficult for the regime.

GUATEMALA

HONDURAS CLAIMS INNOCENCE OF CONVICTED CITIZEN

PA020212 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Gonzalo Martinez Carias, the Honduran Consul in Guatemala City, asked today for a postponement of the death sentence imposed on his compatriot Marco Antonio Gonzalez by Guatemala's special courts through a legal document submitted at the National Defense Ministry. Martinez Carias said that information obtained from the Honduran Military Intelligence Department indicates that Marco Antonio Gonzalez has no criminal record and is an exemplary citizen.

[Begin Martinez Carias recording] The Honduran has been sentenced to death and we are doing everything possible to prove his innocence. I was in Tegucigalpa last Friday and talked to official in our country's Foreign Secretariat and Military Intelligence Organization. The man has no criminal record in Honduras. We have certification from the courts in Honduras that the man has commited no crime in Honduras. If you are a criminal in one place, you are a criminal everywhere. He has been sentenced for terrorist acts in general and we have no information as to what specific act he committed. [end recording]

URNG REPORTS ON 1982 GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES

PA031840 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] The forces of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) last year carried out 2,082 political-military actions and inflicted 2,976 casualties on the regime of Gen Efrain Rios Montt.

The UNRG says in a report that it carried out 31 annihilation actions against troops of the tyranny's army, 98 ambushes and 22 harassment operations against enemy military posts. The URNG is composed of the Armed People's Revolutionary Organization, the Poor People's Guerrilla Army, the Rebel Armed Forces and the Guatemalan Labor Party.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT 'PLEASED' WITH KIRPATRICK VISIT

PA032152 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2059 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government reported today that it feels "deeply pleased" with the announcement of the visit by Jeane Kirpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

The diplomat's visit to Honduras is scheduled for 7 February and the Honduran Government today described her as a "distinguished scholar and diplomat who at the world forum has strongly defended the casue of democracy, justice and pluralism."

The Honduran Government says it is interesting to note the value of Kirpatrick's visit "at a moment when totalitarian threats seeks, through campaigns of misinformation and aggression of various types, to destabilize the governments elected by the people."

The Honduran Government also expresses the hope that "with her experience, dynamism and sensitivity to Central American peoples," the visitor will strengthen the peace initiative sponsored by Honduras.

It adds that Kirpatrick could lend increased support to the efforts of the democratic countries of Central America in favor of political, multilateral and civilized solutions to the region's problems.

PAZ BARNICA DISCOUNTS OBJECTIONS TO MANEUVERS

PA040302 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Excerpts] Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has said that the government has made every possible effort to prevent the execution by firing squad of a Honduran citizen in Guatemala. The Foreign Secretariat asked Guatemala for more proof and greater objectivity before executing our compatriot.

On the Nicaraguan protests against the U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers, the foreign secretary reminded the Sandinists that similar exercises will be held between the United States and Panama in the near future. Here are Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica's remarks as reported by the journalists (Douglas Membreno) and Gustavo Rubio:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Foreign Secretary, what is the Honduran Government doing for our fellow citizen who is going to be shot in Guatemala City?

[Answer] Last week we got the official word on the matter and, in an effort to stay the execution, we immediately sent a note to the Guatemalan Government asking for further information on the matter. We believe that the individual in question is probably innocent. He lived in [name indistinct], went to Guatemala to see his mother and, according to the information we have, had an altercation with a policeman at a soccer game. The policeman later accused him of subversive activities.

[Question] The FMLN offensive has further convulsed the Central American area and has somewhat damaged the Honduran Government's international peace effort.

[Answer] According to the daily papers, the FMLN offensive aims at achieving political power in El Salvador. This is a problem that the Salvadoran people must solve. Logically, this violence has repercussions throughout Central America, including our country, which has a democratic and pluralist government. This is why we are increasing our efforts to achieve peace and peaceful coeixstence on a basis of the demands of peoples who are tired of social injustice and political oppression. Neither do they accept totalitarianism from either the extreme left or the extreme right.

[Question] What do you think of the series of demonstrations held in Nicaragua to protest the joint U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers?

[Answer] I believe that his is the action of a certain group of persons who are responding to an event in Honduras that is just another routine action and has been occurring since 1965. The maneuvers have no warmongering or offensive nature. The object of these maneuvers was clearly stated when the Nicaraguan Government as well as other Central American governments and Panama were invited to send observers. These are joint exercises of a limited nature to provide technical training for the armed forces.

I have heard that next week Panama and the United States will stage a much larger operation, with the participation of 12,000 men and for the defense of the canal. This operation falls within the context of the joint operations program that has been going on for many years. [end recording]

PANAMA FIRST STOP ON PAZ BARNICA TOUR

PA040130 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has begun a tour of three Latin American countries in order to intensify diplomatic briefings in an effort to better convey a just and comprehensive understanding of Honduras' reality. He will visit Panama, Venezuela and Colombia, where he will state the eminently peaceful position that determines the international conduct of Roberto Suazo Cordova's government.

In Panama City, Paz Barnica will meet with Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado. In Caracas, he will talk with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco and in Bogot, he will see Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo.

Paz Barnica's tour is part of the Honduran constitutional Government's new program to project the democratic image of our country and the efforts it is making to promote its economic and social development.

According to the plan, the Honduran foreign secretary will analyze bilateral and multilateral affairs with the foreign ministers of the three countries. They will also examine the Latin American situation, especially Central America, in the context of initiatives for peace in the region and the strengthening of the democratic institutions.

An economic cooperation and commercial agreement will be signed in Colombia and the technical and scientific cooperation between Honduras and Colombia will be reviewed. The Honduran foreign secretary was accompanied by advisers Jorge Ramon Hernandez Licerro and Ricardo Arturo Pineda.

NICARAGUA

REPORT ON 2 FEB DEMONSTRATION AT U.S. EMBASSY

PA031457 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Text] More than 15,000 members of various organizations yesterday converged on the statue of (Montoya) and marched toward the U.S. Embassy in rejection of the Big Pine maneuvers, which started last Tuesday in the Honduran border zone with Nicaragua.

It was a demonstration of the people's power to state that the Nicaraguans will not be cowed by the actions of the U.S. Government and its allies in Central America. People came from the most remote neighborhoods of the capital toward Guerrilla Member Avenue; students, construction workers, peasants, professionals, teachers, workers, electricians, mechanics and market vendors.

A commission of mothers and heroes and martyrs went to the gate of the embassy and handed an embassy official a letter addressed to Ronald Reagan, in which they asked him the reason for so much brutality against the Nicaraguan people. They also asked him the reason for choosing the Republic of Honduras for carrying out the Big Pine maneuvers, when the United States is such an enormous territory.

We must prevent a holocaust in Central America, said (Elias Chevez) yesterday during the march to reject the Big Pine maneuvers. In an urgent call to the peoples and governments of the world, Companero (Elias Chevez) spoke for the people's organizations and said we must stop the holocaust in Central America. He was referring to the Big Pine maneuvers. The leader of the Sandinist defense committees also said that when the pope arrives in March we must learn about the Nicaraguan people's hopes and their tenacity against the hunger, injustice, poverty and social discrimination that have been imposed on us by our oppressors. (Elias Chevez) spoke to Radio Sandino:

[Begin (Chevez) recording in progress] ...because this march expresses our people's complete support for the peaceful policy being pursued by the revolutionary government. Based on this, we allow ourselves to issue a call to the peoples and governments of the world to prevent a holocaust in Central America. We feel that upon his arrival the high pontiff of the Catholic Church, His Holiness John Paul II, must learn about the fate and the struggle of our people. He must learn about our people's tenacity against the hunger, injustice, poverty and social discrimination that have been imposed on us by our oppressors, who murder our people and subject us to the worst infamies. As of this moment, we request his prayers and mediation so that peace will prevail in Central America. [end recording]

The Nicaraguan workers, who are ready to defend what has been achieved by the revolution, yesterday rejected the Big Pine maneuvers that are being carried out by U.S. imperialism to scare us. The imperialists will not achieve this, they said, because we are a mature nation. Likewise, they stated that both the revolutionary government and the people have a peaceful inclination.

ORTEGA TO HEAD DELEGATION TO NEW DELHI MEETING

PA022219 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, will head the Nicaraguan delegation to the seventh summit meeting of the Nonaligned Movement in New Delhi, India.

Ortega will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto Brockman and other companero ministers of the cabinet.

Some 3,000 delegates amd 75 heads of state of all the Nonaligned Movement members will meet in New Dehli. This summit will discuss the membership application of Colombia and Venezuela and the Managua communique issued here during the meeting of the Coordinating Bureau in January.

In New Delhi, the Latin American countries will, for the first time draft a document on the problems of this continent. In the document they will further strengthen the principles of the Nonaligned Movement.

SERGIO RAMIREZ ANALYZES GAINS, GOALS OF JUNTA

PA030120 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 0400 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Interview with Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Nicaraguan Government Junta member, by (Guillermo Rodriguez Munoz); in Managua's Government House "last week" -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Upon reaching your fourth year in power, have the Sandinists achieved the goals you sought during the battle against Somoza and at the beginning of your government in 1979?

[Answer] We think we have. We have successfully consolidated a new political project in Latin America. This means that we have consolidated the support from different sectors of the Nicaraguan people to carry out this project. We have consolidated the revolutionary state so that it increasingly develops the capacity to solve the country's social problems and face the economic crisis. Above all, we have consolidated the FSLN's leadership.

[Question] Does the political project to institutionalize the political parties imply another step toward the process of ideological (?autonomy)?

[Answer] Yes, this is the first step in institutionalizing pluralism, according to our concept of the institutionalization process. The first step is the political parties law, which is being discussed by the State Council. The next step will be the approval of an electoral bill. We hope to be discussing this electoral bill by July or August, so that we will be able to begin an electoral period in 1985, so that elections take place in 1985, if no unforeseeable events beyond our control occur.

[Question] Am I to understand that the national political process of 1979 is going forward normally, within the possibilities of a country which is recreating itself?

[Answer] Of course, since this is not only responds to the will of the revolutionary process but also to the revolution's need to institutionalize itself and to guarantee pluralist participation, thus achieving political harmony such as that enjoyed by countries where democracy has been institutionalized.

[Question] In relations to the news media, NEWSWEEK [word indistinct] has started to denounce again -- and this denunciation was joined by the NEW YORK TIMES -- the U.S. maneuvers to destabilize the Nicaraguan regime. Naturally, these destabilization maneuvers being done through the CIA. Do you perceive this in the daily Nicaraguan events?

[Answer] Yes. Before you came in I was reading a report by TIME magazine about the director of the CIA. He confesses in this report that they are carrying out covert operations -- now they call them special operations -- and that one of the most important operations is being staged along the border between Nicaragua and Honduras.

According to them, this is being done to prevent us from passing weapons to El Salvador and not to oust us. They reportedly only want to destabilize our regime. This subjective [word indistinct] is what characterizes the Reagan administration and its covert or overt operations.

[Question] [Words indistinct] do you feel economically pressured to seek another system?

[Answer] The United States -- and I mean the Reagan administration -- would like to exert more pressure on us than it can. Nevertheless, the way it handles the [word indistinct] is different from the U.S. people's will. The U.S. Government would like to see us isolated from Latin America but they have not achieved this. We have solidary and strong relations with many Latin American countries in the economic, political sector. We can say the same about West European and Arab countries. We have the sort of relations that are adequate to Nicaragua's needs. Thus, the U.S. attempts to isolate us have not been very effective.

[Question] It is evident that the Malvinas case has provoked a unity in Latin America to confront phenomena which are closer than we had thought.

The Argentines have become aware that they are Latin Americans and the government of President Betancur supports Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas. Suddenly, the Latin American countries become part of our everyday life.

[Answer] The incursion is a plan of errors. The blind U.S. policy was a mistake in the Malvinas and one of the great achievements of Latin America was to wake up to that mistake. Now the Latin American governments, whatever their ideological goals, have a much deeper sense of unity. They realize that the U.S.-promoted Pan-Americanism has been nothing more than a trojan horse to advance U.S. interests in Latin America. These are political, military and economic interests, in which the unity and identity of Latin America has no interest. The real U.S. interests lie in NATO, especially in the United Kingdom, which is its fiercest ally. In this alliance the United States looks to its strategic interests and it does not really mind paying the price of its relations with Latin America [word indistinct].

This has been clearly seen by Colombian President Betancur. Venezuelan President Herrera Campins has clearly seen it. We have [words indistinct] and now we are much better identified with Latin America in the presence of a completely foreign power. I would even call it an extracontinental power, that the United States is.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Of course. President Betancur's position demanding that Cuba be included in the inter-American system is correct in our view. [Words indistinct] however, the Latin American alliance must be seen as between countries and not as (?within the law), within the economic and political interest of each country in the concert of Latin America and in what the sum of these interests therefore represents. I believe that for a long time we must think that Latin America will be a diverse continent with various ideologies, with various parties in power, but with some common interests that should help these countries identify with each other.

To the extent that this identity become clearer in the face of what is assailing Latin America, such as in the case of the Malvinas, we will be finding better points of unity and the unity will be more solid.

[Question] Do you see the Central American phenomenon as a volcano that can in some way, at some specific time, turn into a Vietnam, for example?

[Answer] Naturally. One must first understand that the Central American problem is not a East-West confrontation; it is not a confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States. It is a problem of deep injustice in which a voracious clique has economically dominated these countries in the most clumsy and immoral fashion. This has caused unrest among many thousands of very poor people who demand greater justice and democracy. This is what the Central American struggle is all about. Once it is so understood, it will be much easier in the short run to find solutions for the Central American problems.

In the meantime, the Reagan administration thinks that Central America must be invaded, that weapons and men as well as military and technical resources must be brought into the area to prevent a democratic solution. We are going to end up worse than Vietnam.

[Question] [Words indistinct] intervention of the world's other ideological sector, or is only the United States intervening and nobody else? This might seem a Manichaean view.

[Answer] It seems to me that it is one thing to talk about world tension between the Soviet Union and the United States. That tension exists; we are not going to hide the sun behind a finger. But I am (?now) talking about the Central American problem. The belief that defeating the Salvadoran guerrillas is the equivalent of defeating the Soviet Union's interests is a very serious mistake. Behind that mistake lies justification for the worst crimes committed against the Salvadoran people and all democrats. The most horrible repression ever known in Central America would therefore be justified. (?I insist) and say very sincerely that the repression and crimes are worse than the ones we experienced under Somoza. Through these pretexts and ideological mechanisms they seek to justify the idea that in order to keep the Soviet Union from conquering a given territory in Central America, it is necessary to support the retrogressive forces in El Salvador and the CIA maneuvers. The CIA efforts to prevent a political solution in El Salvador would be more than condemnable.

[Question] In Panama, Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado told us in an interview that there is (?new) concern that the subject of the canal might be involved in the Central American fire. How does Managua view this canal phenomenon?

[Answer] We want the Torrijos-Carter treaties to be respected. However, it would seem that the Reagan administration is not very anxious to respect those treaties. The canal's very security and stability depend on peace and stability in Central America. It is very important to view this case in this manner. The big U.S. pretext is that we threaten the canal's security. On the contrary, Nicaragua's domestic stability helps guarantee the canal's stability because we, like all other countries, are interested in free, stable and secure passage through the canal. I insist that true stability and peace in Central America is what will guarantee the canal's security.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] The stability of peace in Central America has several aspects. The first... [voice interrupts, words indistinct] the first is that a secure border or secure borders be guaranteed to us. That is the aspiration of every country in the world. That was set forth in the UN Charter. We don't have that guarantee. Our border is insecure. We are being attacked across the border.

The second prerequisite is that all the Somozist troops withdraw from the border and that the Honduran Government seriously concern itself with keeping armed people from attacking our border areas from Honduran territory. In addition, a peaceful and negotiated solution must be reached in El Salvador, where the rebel forces must be taken into account; a truly democratic solution must be provided there. Unfortunately, until this is achieved, tensions will continue to grow in Central America and the cost will be increasingly [word indistinct].

[Question] What role can Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela and Panama play? They are now acting with a single mind and at the recent Contadora meeting, they demanded a peace process.

[Answer] The fact that Colombia is now giving attention to the prospects of the peace proposal made by Mexico and Venezuela and that it has begun to move [words indistinct] the foreign ministers' meeting in Panama, is a very important step for us. In this regard, we see a new prospect. I think that Colombia's participation in a peace effort in Central America strengthens the possibility of reaching a solution.

[Question] [Words indistinct] along the same path, that is, a peaceful solution that respects the political forces -- which might be the FMLN in El Salvador -- that guarantees secure borders for you, [words indistinct].

[Answer] To begin with, there is something simpler than that; we must be taken into account. We can't understand peace talks in Central America if the United States gathers some Central American countries together -- as was the case with the so-called Peace Forum in Costa Rica -- but excludes Nicaragua. Colombia has already clearly expressed its view on this. President Betancur has already announced that Colombia will not participate in any other meeting that excludes Nicaragua. That is the first thing, [words indistinct] we must be taken into account, since we are a part of the conflict and our opinions are very important. That is obvious.

[Question] We continue our dialogue with Dr Ramirez Mercado by referring to the proposed meeting of hemispheric foreign ministers, which would be held in Panama. A meeting of chiefs of state has also been suggested for the city of Cartagena (de Indias), which this year will celebrate its 450th anniversary. Does Nicaragua approve of this type of conference to review political, economic and social problems -- along with the subject of Central America, seen as a volcano -- and as a means of solving the area's problems?

[Answer] Every peace effort has Nicaragua's support. Every effort to discuss Latin America's problems has Nicaragua's support and any proposal made by President Betancur has, for that very reason, all our respect and support.

[Question] [Words indistinct] isn't the best, that is, having to censor a newspaper and a few lines.

[Answer] No, that's what I'm trying to explain to you. That is not the best situation for us. It is an uncomfortable situation; we don't like it. But again, the problem is not how censorship is implemented but censorship itself. We are against censorship [words indistinct]. This is merely a need of the revolution. Neither are we in favor of people dying every day at the border. We don't favor war; we are simply defending ourselves.

[Question] Consulting your crystal ball, do you believe that Colombia can easily join the Nonaligned Movement [words indistinct]?

[Answer] Naturally, we expect as much, and Nicaragua is going to support Colombia's admission to the Nonaligned Movement.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] We believe that the document [words indistinct] the Managua declaration on Latin America must be basically incorporated into the New Delhi document. That is going to be [words indistinct] because it clearly dealt with a series of subjects that are critical to Latin America, which will obtain the consensus of the heads of the attending state.

[Question] The meeting will evidently have many participants.

[Answer] Yes. We are going to attend the conference with a large delegation. We will probably be elected members of the movement's Coordinating Bureau. We are planning to play a leadership role in the Nonaligned Movement in Latin America.

[Question] Mr Ramirez, here's another subject that must be vitally important to you. In the next few days, Honduras-U.S. military maneuvers will take place along your border. Do you see this as a provocation or as part of [words indistinct] a country that has the right to hold military maneuvers with another country and that no one has to interfere in this?

[Answer] Look, the United States has been holding manuevers [words indistinct] for a long time. These maneuvers are not being staged on the border with (?Guatemala); they are staging them on the border with Nicaragua. These Big Pine or New Pine maneuvers are going to be held some 7 or 8 km from the Nicaraguan border. Therefore, we are going to hear the explosions of the cannon fire; we are even going to see the planes flying. What else can one [words indistinct] other than provocation. I want to say that we are sorry that Mr Reagan and his administration are getting nervous over the future of Central America. It is dangerous for a giant to become nervous, especially when it is crossing such muddy and slippery terrain as Central America.

By this time they would have liked to have seen the Nicaraguan Government overthrown. The U.S. plans of aggression against Nicaragua should already jelled last December, when 1,200 former Somozist guards, armed and trained by the CIA, participated in an operation whose purpose was to take the town of Jalapa in Nueva Segovia Department and to establish a liberated territory in order to set up a counterrevolutionary government. That maneuver failed.

All the military maneuvers that they have staged to conquer Nicaraguan territory have failed. In the face of these failures, the roar of the Metro Goldwyn Meyer lion becomes always more deafening.

The United States has also failed to have the Salvadoran Army defeat the FMLN in El Salvador with battalions trained by the U.S. Government.... [questioner interrupts]

[Question] But on the contrary, the FMLN has defeated the army.

[Answer] Well, I wanted to say this, that is, that the [word indistinct] battalion, Atonal Battalion, the Belloso Battalion are bogged down there, at the Torola River. They have not been able to advance to reconquer Morazan Department. This has made the United States nerveous. They are planning a joint landing of Salvadoran, Honduran and U.S. troops in La Union port, in the Gulf of Fonseca. The Gulf of Fonseca is common to Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras. This would be an unfortunate maneuver, very dangerous, which would demonstrate that they are getting more than just nervous, because this would be a rehearsal for an aggression against Nicaragua as well as El Salvador.

Therefore, we view this situation with concern, with apprehension, but without fear. The only thing we ask is prudence. The United States is going to gain nothing with a large military aggression in Central America, except to light many bonfires here. The reflection of these bonfires will be seen as far away as Colombia, Venezuela and Mexico because we are not going to surrender and we are not going to abandon our revolutionary positions or this revolution, either by threats or by aggression. We are not braggarts; we are a small and humble people who want to live in peace but who are still willing to defend ourselves.

[Question] [Words indistinct] could the defensive plan suddenly become offensive? [words indistinct]

[Answer] We are going to defend ourselves within our borders. Nicaragua is a country with well-defined borders and we won't let anyone (?who is armed) cross our borders. Now, if an aggression actually takes place and thousands of men decide to fight here, from Nicaragua, then, (?there won't be any separating) border. Because in case of an aggression, we won't fight within the Nicaraguan borders. All wars in Central America have always been fought like that.

[Question] But I suppose that you are somehow avoiding such a situation?

[Answer] To the very last minute. And when our patience runs out, we look for more. We don't want to fall into a situation marked by conflict with any country. [Words indistinct] efforts, but we are not going to shrink from this situation. It has been created against our will. We want this point to be absolutely clear.

[Question] Can't Latin America fall into a dangerous situation, a rash arms buildup? You have to defend yourselves but in order do this you must buy (?weapons) [using the resources] needed for production. Or have you been both calm and responsible in this regard as well?

[Answer] One would have to think about what the Colombian people would say if 5,000 or 6,000 men were along the Venezuelan border attacking the border towns every day and causing thousands of deaths. Colombia can withstand this much better than we can, by which I mean to say that if we are to keep the proportion, if we have had 30 dead so far this year, Colombia would have to have had 300 dead. You must put yourself in our place; being the target of an aggression every day; being the target of attacks, without knowing what town will be attacked, while humble children who are picking coffee [words indistinct] mass kidnapping of workers, elderly people and border residents. This situation would be intolerable to anyone. We have armed ourselves with patience in order to tolerate it.

[Question] A final question: The pope will come to Central America, but apparently there has been no official announcement on whether he will visit Nicaragua. I understand that the Sandinist government will announce this officially; that is, at state level. In this regard, there has been a lot of talk in several Latin American papers about the tense relationship between the church and the government, (?and certain) attacks. The attacks (?are not staged) by the government, but there are individuals who paint the walls of Monsignor Obando's house. The reports say that the church-government relationship is not good, as if the Sandinist government were attacking the church or at least reining it in. What is the truth?

[Answer] We have officially invited the pope to visit Nicaragua. His arrival date has not yet been confirmed. He has plans to travel to Central America. A Vatican commission has been here to prepare the details of his visit, and we have held talks with them through the protocol and security authorities. As soon as he announces the exact date of his visit, we will (?announce it). We will receive him as he deserves, as a (?head of) state, [words indistinct] his visit to Nicaragua, whatever programs he may wish to carry out here in accordance with us.

Now, there is indeed some tension between some Nicaraguan church leaders and the government. We view this as normal, that there should be tensions in a country that changes every day and is involved in a profound revolutionary process, since certain church sectors are quite conservative. However, we do not regard this as one of the revolution's major problems.

EDEN PASTOR DISCUSSES ANTI-SANDINIST STRATEGY

PA031431 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 0400 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Interview granted by Nicaraguan opposition leader Eden Pastora in Bogota, Colombia, on 31 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Pastora] We know that you have heard only one version of the Central American situation. You only know one side of the coin; we are going to speak of the other side. We are going to speak of the frustration of a people who fought heroically for a Sandinist people's anti-imperialist revolution, which is the same one that we continue to defend and struggle for, a revolution, a revolution that will have a nonaligned foreign policy, a revolution that is democratic, popular and Sandinist. When we issued our statement on 15 April in San Jose, Costa Rica, our dissidence was within the revolution toward which we have a duty. The international press distorted and manipulated our Sandinist, revolutionary and anti-imperialist position. It presented us as anticommunist, anti-Cuban and even as counterrevolutionary and anti-Sandinist. In truth, we are the real Sandinists, and we are going to ask you, the Colombian press and the press of the world, to begin to call things by their names. It is not true that a Sandinist revolution is taking place in Nicaragua. A Sandinist revolution is not aligned; a Sandinist revolution must respect press freedom because the Nicaraguan people have the sacred right to be informed, to have different channels of information, whether of the extreme righwing, extreme leftwing, the center, the top or the bottom because this is the only way that people can have the facts to formulate opinions and draw the conclusions that they think best defend their interests. That is why we continue to struggle for the Sandinist revolution, the same revolution for which we have struggled for the last 20 years.

[Question] The question now deals with the Somozist bands. Are there rifles of the so-called third alternative led by Commander Pastora, Commander Zero, in Nicaragua?

[Answer] I do not have a man [words indistinct]. I do not have an armed man. You see that the international news agencies have said this, and in Costa Rica the government has said that it has not discovered any camp that is mine and not even one uniformed man. We have been stating that our positions are political. I am tired and hoarse from saying that I do not have armed men and that I do not have rifles. Now then, I do not know where you get the idea that we have undertaken terrorist actions. What are those terrorist actions that we direct or are responsible for? Not even in the past war were we terrorists. The seizure of the palace was an action that within the political laws was an eminently military commando operation. It was not a terrorist action. We Sandinists have never been accused of a terrorist action, much less now. That has been precisely the battle we have won against the National Directorate. For 7 or 8 months it has been trying to show that we are going to war and that we are warmongers, and so far it has been unable to show that we have killed one peasant. We are never going to kill a peasant. We are never going to kill a worker or a student. They are the ones who are killing them. Our position is eminently political. Now then, there is a threat. We condemn that threat. As long as the deviations are totalitarian, as long as the original project of the revolution is not fulfilled, as long as we are not Sandinists and align ourselves with one of powers and take the East-West war to Nicaragua, the threat of imperialism will continue to exist. We are located in the backyard of U.S. imperialism.

[Question] What is Pastora's opinion on the Somozist bands?

[Anwer] Thank God, as long as we are alive and can have an influence on our people and our organization, there will be no links uniting us with the counterrevolutionaries. We are revolutionaries by essence and decency. We have fought for the revolution for 20-23 years and we are never going to abandon our principles. Our position regarding the Somozist guardsmen is one of criticism and denunciation. Just like the Nicaraguan people, we will never accept a return to the past. There have been revolutionary achievements. There have been beautiful achievements such as the national literacy campaign, which we are going to defend; while the guardsmen want a return to the past, to ignorance and illiteracy. The nationalization of foreign trade and the banks is a revolutionary achievement. We are always going to defend it. We are going to defend the revolutionary achievement of dignity for peasants and workers. We are going to defend the Nicaraguan patriotism that we lost under the Somozist dictatorship. We are going to defend all those beautiful things of the revolution. We are not going to return to the wages of hunger even though the National Directorate is increasingly making us poorer.

This is our stand regarding the threat we are now facing, a threat that has the support of U.S. imperialism. This threat is the most favorable thing that Reagan can do for the Directorate. What is being used is extreme reasoning: The Directorate's position justifies Reagan's stand in Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua; while Reagan's position, his threats, justify the Directorate's deviations. So the two extremes will finally end up thanking each other and shaking hands. The Reagan administration will say to Tomas Borge, thank you very much; and Tomas Borge will say the same thing to Reagan. Meanwhile, the people suffer. People are suffering; there is shortage of 180 basic medicines in Nicaragua. Why? Because Health Minister Lea Guido goes to Bulgaria and she is given medicines for 8 years, but they are not for a tropical climate.

[Question] What is your opinion, Commander Eden Pastora -- Commander Zero -- about the present Sandinist government, President Ronald Reagan's government and President Fidel Castro's government in Cuba?

[Answer] The government we now have is misgoverning us, just like Somoza's government did. Somozism is in power, because Somozism is not a person or an individual, it is a habit, a custom, which is being practiced in Nicaragua, which includes lies, calumny, death threats, torture, no freedom of the press, no free elections. So, as long as this situation persists in Nicaragua, we will criticize the policy of the national Directorate.

What I can criticize the U.S. Government for is its foreign policy, which is erroneous in Central America and Nicaragua. We have directly and indirectly told the United States not to meddle in Nicaraguan affairs. We have told them not to be so stupid as to make the mortal and historic mistake of trying to go back to the past. It is against history to try to get the military in the government again. The 2 million Nicaraguans will not permit the military to kill our young people on the streets again. We will not permit the prostitutes to pay taxes to commanders. We will not return to the wages of hunger, to being bought or sold or to being given away to the other empire. Thus, we criticize the Reagan administration.

Regarding Fidel, the time will come -- and this will be when the political situation permits, when the threat of the national guard is not there -- when we will say: Commander Fidel Castro, take these Cubans away, or the Nicaraguan people will have to kill them.

This is going to happen, but the present political situation makes it impossible right now. We have our hands tied. We are prisoners in the middle of a situation of extremes. There is disorientation and misinformation. Calumny and lies abound in Nicaragua, and there is no independent press. Do you know how many radio stations there are in Nicaragua -- do you know, my friend? There are 60 radio stations. Do you know how many of them have been intervened and are under state control? Fifty-seven. Would you like this to happen in Colombia?

[Question] This is Commander Eden Pastora, being interviewed by CARACOL and giving his opinion regarding an alleged decision by the United States to adopt a policy of eliminating people, not only in Nicaragua but also in Honduras, Costa Rica, and Guatemala.

[Answer] That is the essence of the imperialists' foreign policy, isn't it? Exterminating the poor people is the essence of the foreign policy being followed by the United States, to discredit the revolution, make it poor, make it the barefoot, hungry, poor and begging revolution of the world, so that it will not be an example for Latin American revolutions.

[Question] When will patience end. When will the honeymoon you have been talking about in various countries end, and when will the retaking of power, the rebuilding of Sandinism, as you call it, begin?

[Answer] At the time when the Reagan administration removes the former guards from the border with Nicaragua.

[Question] [Words indistinct] because I have been 2 km from the border and I have seen ... [Pastora interrupts]

[Answer] No, no, they are there; I am not saying they are not. So, when the Reagan administration stops supporting these men and leaves it up to us, the democrats, to solve the Nicaraguan problem from inside Nicaragua, then we will step up in our struggle for liberty.

Now, how can we get Reagan to do this? What type of pressure can be used? World pressure from democratic groups in Colombia, Venezuela, the Andean Pact countries, Latin America, Europe, Germany, the Socialist International, the Liberal International, Mexico, Democrats in U.S. Congress, the U.S. people and U.S. liberals can be used. With this pressure on his administration, Reagan will have no alternative but to remove them.

[Question] One last question for CARACOL: What is going to happen in Nicaragua in the coming months? Today, Honduran-U.S. military maneuvers are taking place, and they are not being conducted in the Fonseca Gulf near Guatemala, but near Nicaragua.

[Answer] This is a political maneuver used by Reagan so that the Directorate, under pressure, will stop production. If there is no production, the economy topples; and if the economy topples, so does the revolution. Therefore, what does Reagan do? Well, he mounts military maneuvers, the Hawk View maneuvers, in which 450 Marines participate. Then, the Directorate takes advantage of this politically, uses it in political demagogy, stops the people's production, gets the people involved in war preparations and stops production for 15, 30 days. What happens then? The economy topples.

[Question] It is then said that during Somoza's days the country exported $900 million, while now it only exports $300 million.

[Answer] That's true. And whose fault is it? The bad administrator's, because he gets scared when he hears (?war drums) and stops production. He is the one to blame. He is not a clever politician who sees that this is a maneuver and that there is no danger of war, that there is no need to stop production. Fidel stopped production when the Bay of Pigs was at his doorstep, but he did not stop production just because he heard (?war drums).

So if our leaders stop production when they hear (?war drums), the revolution will start declining, and it will end up as a revolution of people that are barefoot, hungry and without medicines, homes or salaries. Do you know that our unemployment rate is 30 percent? True, the years of war were terrible, and we inherited a country in ruins; but it is also true that the renegotiation of the foreign debt was substantial, that the foreign debt has doubled. It is also true that Nicaraguans are hard-working people, and that Nicaragua is a rich country, and that in 4 years we should be able to see a way out, and not be sinking in deeper.

CLANDESTINE RADIO ON ORIGIN OF 2,000 MERCENARIES

PA032004 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0230 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Excerpt] The FSLN regime has sent more than 2,000 mercenaries to fight in El Salvador on Fidel Castro's orders. Late Friday night the Marxist-Leninist regime of the government of our country sent a contingent of more than 2,000 international mercenaries to the sister republic of El Salvador as part of the latest antigovernment offensive, which has resulted in heavy losses to the Salvadoran terrorists, who are facing serious problems in view of the war fatigue that has set in among their members.

This is how the tyrant Fidel Castro of Cuba, realizing the situation, has ordered the communist leadership of our fatherland urgently to send in all the international members who were carrying out invasion exercises in the bases of Montelimar, El Tamarindo. He also sent a large contingent of men who were based at the Santa Julia farm on the Gulf of Fonseca, on the peninsula of the same name. This farm was stolen from (Enrique Monte Caceres), who now lives in the United States.

The Santa Julia farm was where more than 2,000 men embarked on Friday night. They landed at El Tamarindo, on the coast in Salvadoran territory. This contingent of mercenaries was made up of Cubans, Chileans, Argentines and 685 Nicaraguans.

RADIO MISKUS STATES ITS PURPOSE, BELIEFS

PA012259 (Clandestine) Radio Miskus in Spanish to Nicaragua 0200 GMT 1 Feb 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Brothers, brothers of the coast: This is Radio Miskus, the voice of the Miskitos, Sumus and Ramas up in arms for the freedom of the Atlantic coast and all Nicaragua. Radio Miskus is the voice against communist killers and broadcasts from somewhere in our national territory because we believe in God, the creator of the universe; because we seek a dignified society without racial discrimination; because we seek peace, progress and love; because communism is a foreign ideology; because our homeland is not for the (?Cuban) soldiers or for the nine who have sold our homeland. Our struggle is just, historical and full of hope. We trust in God that soon we will break the Marxist-Leninist chains that the Sandinists have imposed on us.

REAGAN BLAMED FOR TENSION IN CARIBBEAN REGION

FL031656 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1242 GMT 3 Feb 83

[International Commentary by Miguel Toirac from the staff of the "Revista de la Manana" program and (Joaquin Riveric), a journalist of GRANMA newspaper -- live]

[Excerpts] [Toirac] The Central American situation, as all of you know, is characterized by the constant actions of the FMLN in El Salvador and the forces of the National Revolutionary Unity of Guatemala. This situation has deteriorated in the past few days because of the joint maneuvers the U.S. and Honduran armies have been carrying out on the border with Nicaragua since 1 February. (Riveric) and I feel that the revolution in Central America is a good topic for discussion. In the case of El Salvador, to cite an example, most of the territory is in FMLN hands with the occupation of Usulutan, Morazan and Chalatenango Departments.

[Riveric] The Salvadoran situation now has characteristics which are quite different from those of other times. The war has advanced greatly and fighting has increased. The latest actions show that the battles are taking on a new intensity.

[Toirac] It is very interesting to see how the stubbornness of Reagan and the Salvadoran military leaders not to seek a negotiated solution in El Salvador is gradually leading them to a military defeat. Undoubtedly, the FMLN and the revolutionary DEMOCRATIC FRONT [FDR] will sooner or later emerge victorious if no negotiated solution is reached. As predicted by FDR President Guillermo Ungo, 1983 is decisive in the Salvadoran people's liberation struggle.

[Riveric] I agree with you. However, there are other elements to be taken into consideration. For example, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is currently discussing ratification or rectification and there are certain congressmen who disagree with the so-called corroboration that there are no human rights violations in El Salvador. Reagan recently certified that there are no violations in El Salvador. However, this is an outrageous hoax because everybody is aware of daily violations in El Salvador.

In addition, Reagan's certification is very cynical because to certify that the Salvadoran human rights situation has improved, noting that only 200 perople are killed per month is very cynical. Although the figure is higher than that and, even if it were 200 killed, it seems very difficult and cynical to say that human rights are improving in El Salvador with 200 murders per month.

However, El Salvador is not the only conflict or tense situation in Central America. Central America is a focus of general tension thanks to Reagan's policy. Here in Central America we are witnessing the U.S.-Honduran military maneuvers that are being carried out in HOnduran territory near the border with Nicaragua, in an area where Somozist groups are very active and are constantly entering Nicaragua to attack the civilian population. They inflict casualties mainly on civilians. These maneuvers, which include the participation of 6,000 men, among Hondurans and Americans, are a true provocation, and force the Nicaraguan people to place all their forces and resources on alert. Nicaragua could very well be devoting these resources to the country's reconstruction, but it has to use them for defense.

Another hot issue which we could mention in Central America and the Caribbean is the case of Suriname. Suriname is also becoming a focus of tension in the area. There was a coup attempt and an attempt on the life of Surinamese leader Daysi Bouterse in November.

There was another coup attempt in December which resulted in 15 plotters killed. The latest plot to kill Bouterse was discovered on 29 January. Several people were arrested this time too. This plot was headed by Roy Horb, a military officer. The U.S. hand is in all of this. The United States and the Netherlands have both been repeatedly accused of being involved in these plots and in attempts to destabilize the Surinamese Government.

STATION COMMENTARY CRITICIZES BIG PINE MANEUVERS

FL032005 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Commentary by Carlos Mora Herman]

[Text] The Big Pine joint military maneuvers which began yesterday between U.S. and Honduran troops constitute a serious danger to peace in that region. The maneuvers, slated to end on 7 February, are the largest ever held betwen the United States and any Latin American country with 1,600 members of tne U.S. Army and Air Force, 900 U.S. Advisors and some 4,000 Honduran soldiers participating. They will be supported by naval and submarine units of the strategic rocket-equipped George Washington carrier which a few days ago went through the Panama Canal for Central American waters.

There is no doubt that the Ronald Reagan administration persists on its will on Central America through force of arms and, through these maneuvers, is attempting to intimidate and harass Nicaragua while simultaneously setting the stage for a massive attack against the Sandinist revolution. Also in the background is the attempt to revive the Central American Defense Council -- Condeca -- as announced recently by Honduran Defense Minister (Jose Serra).

This intensification of U.S. warmongering activity in Central America has alarmed U.S. political sectors. Seventy-eight congressmen charged that these maneuvers are a potential threat to peace and asked President Reagan to reconsider last year's Mexican-Venezuelan peace initiative to seek a path to peace through cooperation and not through force of arms.

All of this appears to be related to the revelation made in Bogota's LATIN AMERICAN TIMES magazine in its recently published February issue, in the sense that the Honduran Government approved the U.S. plan to invade Nicaragua from Monduran territory. The magazine, which is published in English in the Colombian capital, published the testimony of Lt Col John H Buchannan before the U.S. Senate's Committee for Inter-American Affairs. In a closed-door session, the U.S. military serviceman told the members of that committee that the plan to invade Nicaragua had been ready since last December and had been approbed by Gan (Gustavo Alvarez), commander of the Honduran Armed Forces.

Taking part in the attack will be a large number of aircraft launched from the Honduran airports of (La Mesa), (Palmerola) and (Golozon). During the first stage of this plan, the United States will deploy large supplies of weapons and equipment to Honduran soil under whatever pretext is needed, such as the Big Pine maneuvers for example. During the second stage, Honduras would nationalize these weapons and equipment, Washington would protest to counter accusations of intervention, while Honduras would use the war materiel to launch the attack against Nicaragua with the participation of mercenaries and former Somozist guards who operate in Honduran territory with U.S. support.

As you can see, everything has been prearranged. For several weeks now, C-130 Hercules and C-141 Starlifter flights have been launched from bases which the Yankees still have in Panama. These enormous aircraft deliver their military cargo to concentration points located in Puerto Lempira and San Pedro de Sula.

Should they decide to commit this infamy it will not be easy. The power of the people and solidarity is great and may hold unpleasant surprises for Reagan and his lackeys.

More Commentary

PA040041 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 1 Feb 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The enemies of the Nicaraguan people unsuccessfully plot to undermine the Sandinist revolution using every possible means including sabotage, armed attacks, kidnapping, murder and other subversive actions, all of which are part of a long list of provocations by Yankee imperialism and its Central American allies against Nicaragua.

Hundreds of innocent Nicaraguans, many of whom were women and children, have been killed or wounded since the revolutionary government took power nearly 4 years ago. The United States, however, could care less as it increases its criminal actions against the land of Sandino.

In Washington's view, the end justifies the means and despite the defeats which imperialism has suffered in Nicaragua, hot-headed U.S. politicians still hope to see that Central American country on its knees. The joint U.S-Honduran military maneuvers which begain Tuesday in Honduras respond to that objective.

The maneuvers are being staged only 15 km from the Nicaraguan border. The Big Pine maneuvers, scheduled to last 6 days include 1,600 U.S. soldiers and 4,000 Honduran soldiers, directed by 900 Yankee military advisers. The operation includes U.S. planes and helicopters brought from U.S. military bases in the Panama Canal area to the Honduran cities of Puerto Lempira and San Pedro Sula. These aircraft have brought a large quantity of war materiel into Honduras for the purpose of providing the Tegucigalpa armed forces with modern military equipment to carry out what the Pentagon mentioned as an eventual war against some bordering nation.

According to Central American political circles, the Big Pine maneuvers will also have the support of important naval forces such as the George Washington, a submarine equipped with missiles, which transited the Panama Canal to the Caribbean Sea a few days ago. Other U.S. naval units are also involved in the máneuvers. The same sources recalled that the passage of all those warships through the Panamanian Isthmus constitutes a new U.S. violation of the neutrality treaty signed between the United States and Panama in 1977. They note that the Big Pine mock military operation is the largest ever held between United States and any Latin American country.

The Nicaraguan people, however, will not be caught by surprise. The Sandinist defense committees and other mass organizations are on the alert and have announced many events rejecting such maneuvers.

In that respect, these organizations began active revolutionary vigilance throughout the country, while the Sandinist Workers Federation of Managua organized a mass march to the U.S. Embassy to express their repudiation to the U.S.-Honduran exercises. Just as in the past century, the emulators of pirate William Walker shall be crushed if they try any military adventure against the people of Sandino and Carlos Fonseca Amador.

COMMENTARY SEES SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS WINNING

PA031727 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 2 Feb 83

["Our America" Commentary]

[Text] Following almost an entire day of heavy clashes, the fighters of the FMLN of El Salvador occupied the city of Berlin, in Usulutan Department. The city, which is the second largest in Usulutan, has a population of 30,000 and is 113 km from San Salvador, the Salvadoran capital.

According to the clandestine station Radio Venceremos, the Army regulars took refuge in the National Guard garrison, totally on the defensive. Preliminary reports indicate that the rebels captured 22 prisoners of war and seized 35 G-3 rifles there.

It has been asserted that the dictatorship sent substantial reinforcements in a desperate attempt to avoid the fall of Berlin to the rebels. The maneuver ended in complete failure, however. The reinforcement troops were attacked on the roads to Berlin and virtually decimated by the guerrillas, who later made a thorough search of the city because they expect to find more weapons there.

In view of its inability to stop the guerrilla advance, the dictatorship ordered that Berlin and adjoining areas be bombed. Several times, Salvadoran Air Force planes dropped bombs of up to 500 pounds on the city, causing many victims among the civilian population and large fires at the telecommunications enterprise and other local government offices. A pharmacy, private homes and businesses in the downtown area were also gutted by fires.

It has also been asserted that the guerrillas have recaptured the town of Alegria, in Usulutan, where a flag of the Popular Liberation Forces [FPL] is waving. The FPL is one of the (?20) organizations that make up the FMLN.

In other actions, the insurgents once more paralyzed some 6,000 troops of the regime who tried to retake Jocoaitique, in Morazan, only 10 km from San Francisco Gotera, capital of that department, where thousands of Salvadoran soldiers remain virtually under siege. This is the second time this year that regular army troops, with support from special counterinsurgency battalions, have been stopped by the rebels, who are in control of Jocoaitique. Radio Venceremos reported that the fighting there is very heavy and that the army has suffered a large number of casualties and prisoners.

While the guerrillas are successfully waging their January Revolutionary Heroes offensive throughout the country, the FMLN's political-military leadership has not rejected a dialogue with the dictatorship, which refuses to sit at the negotiation table. This was confirmed by guerrilla Commander Ferman Cienfuegos, who stressed that that organization has kept open its offer of October 1982 to hold a dialogue without conditions. We are prepared, he said, to go on struggling for a political solution to the conflict in El Salvador, which is costing so many lives. However, we will not lay down our arms until peace, freedom and social justice are guaranteed to all Salvadorans.

The guerrilla commander said that the balance of the war is beginning to tilt in favor of the guerrillas because of their successful armed actions and the high morale of the rebel fighters and revolutionary militias. If the Salvadoran dictatorship and U.S. imperialism do not realize that we are winning the war, the victorious advance of our forces on the battlefield will show it to them, he said in conclusion.

HAVANA CITES GUATEMALAN ARMY'S BRUTALITY

PA311340 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jan 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] It has been a little over 10 months since General Efrain Rios Montt took power, and nobody doubts any longer that he is one of the bloodiest dictators in Guatemalan history. During that period some 8,000 Guatemalan peasants, workers, and Indians have been killed and savagely mutilated by the repressive forces.

The testimonies of peasant organizations, Indian groups, and Catholic church organizations report almost daily the discovery of decapitated men, women burned alive, and children whose bodies were smashed against rocks. The victims are killed by Army forces in the course of large-scale counterinsurgency operations, during which the troops do not engage in combat with the guerrilla forces, but instead concentrate on wiping out entire rural populations.

In recent statements for a foreign newsman, the members of a local civilian defense patrol in Baja Verapaz Department, east of Guatemala City, admitted that they had committed all types of atrocities while fulfilling the instructions issued by the military high command. According to them, in April 1982 they were instructed to detain and kill anyone that they thought might be associated with the rebel forces. If necessary, they added, they could summarily execute 12-year-olds. A member of this patrol reported that he had witnessed how several individuals were drowned and [words indistinct]. Another said that he had been present during the punishment (?inflicted) on a prisoner who had escaped and had been recaptured. According to him, all of the detainee's muscles were cut and [word indistinct]. Afterward, the detainee's body was set on fire and his eyes and teeth were pulled out. [passage indistinct]

One of the most moving testimonies made recently was that of a 17-year-old Indian girl from the (Quetsi) tribe, a native of (Chirrenquiche) village, in Alta Verapaz. The girl told how the regime's soldiers had attacked and raped her during an Army incursion into her village on 7 April 1982. Only she and her 13-year-old brother managed to survive the massacre.

According to the girl, upon arriving in the village, the soldiers gathered the people in a nearby clearing. The men, who had been separated from the women, were cut up with machetes and knives until the became a shapeless, bloody mass. The girl said that the soldiers then raped the women, who were horrified by this sinister spectacle. She said that several soldiers had raped her and had later cut her on her head, hands, and breasts with machetes.

According to this Indian girl, a group of soldiers hurled a months-old baby into the air to see his body pierced by rifle bayonets. For them, she said, that criminal action was a game. The child was hurled into the air tens of times and his body was repeatedly run through with bayonets.

The girl finally said that all the women and children were shot to death. Wounded and almost dying, she managed to remove herself from the pile of bodies with the help of her small brother, who had hid behind a nearby pile of logs and rocks.

Similar incidents occur almost daily in Rios Montt's Guatemala. He is a tyrant at the service of U.S. imperialism and the local oligarchy. This is why the people are increasingly stepping up the revolutionary struggle. There is no other path to eliminating once and for all both the exploitation and political repression that these heroic people of our America have been enduring for so many years.

BARBADOS

ST. JOHN ASKS FOR URGENT CARICOM FACILITY MEETING

FL022145 Bridgetown CANA in English 2028 GMT 2 Feb 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 2, CANA -- Barbados has called for an urgent Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF) meeting to discuss problems related to its operations.

Trade and Caribbean affairs minister, Bernard St. John, said the meeting should devise a united Caribbean community approach to ensure that the necessary funds are available for the continued expansion of trade in the region.

His remarks were made during discussions with a Jamaican goodwill trade mission on the dual exchange rate and hard currency quota systems recently announced by the Jamaican Government, and on the impact which the new measures could have on Barbadian trade with Jamaica.

Under the six-year-old facility, the 12 member states of the regional trade grouping can secure credit for goods bought intra-regionally. Half of the balance, however, must be settled every six months.

Nonetheless, at the end of November, Barbados was owed the highest amount within the community, some 96.9 million dollars (one Bds dollar; 50 cents U.S.), according to central bank statistics.

The Jamaican trade mission sought to assure Minister St. John that the new Jamaican systems could provide opportunities for Barbadian manufacturers to export items to Jamaica, since the shortage of hard currency there would force its importers to make full use of the funding provided by the facility.

However, Mr. St. John felt that the level of trade which Barbados could maintain under the system, would depend on the local manufacturer's ability to reduce costs and to compete with extra-regional imports. He hoped that any Jamaican system of preferences would favour Caricom countries.

Jamaica last year enjoyed a nearly nine million-dollar U.S. favourable balance with Barbados.

Mr. St. John hoped that there would be an early meeting of the facility, since the present funding was proving incapable of meeting the needs for expanding trade in the region.

He cautioned, however, that he had noticed that some exporters were using the facility's funds to finance third country trade, and advised that those persons should be told that the facility was not for that purpose.

The minister was sceptical of the new exchange rate and quota system set up by Jamaica, warning that the workings of the system would have to be watched closely to ensure that it did not function against the spirit of Caricom.

He hoped that at the next Caricom heads of governments meeting in July, trade issues would be fully discussed and that it might be possible to find a system to do away with protectionism and to exploit fully trade opportunities with third countries.

MARTINIQUE

FRANCE'S PIERRE MAUROY TO ARRIVE 4 FEBRUARY

FL040012 Bridgetown CANA in English 2345 GMT 3 Feb 83

[Excerpt] Fort-de-France, Martinique, Feb 3, CANA -- French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy is expected to arrive here tomorrow on the second leg of a swing through France's three overseas departments in the region, officials here said today.

DETAILS ON MAJOR ROY HORB'S DEATH RELEASED

FL040115 Bridgetown CANA in English 2236 GMT 3 Feb 83

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barrados, Feb 3, CANA -- The Suriname authorities said tonight they had closed investigations into the death of top ranking army officer, Major Roy Horb, and were positive that he had committed suicide.

Horb, detained since Sunday night in connection with an alleged conspiracy to liquidate the country's ruling military leadership, was found hanging in his prison cell early this morning by guards, the authorities said.

The official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA), in a report received here from Paramaribo, said the pathologist who had carried out the post mortem on the 30-year-old soldier's body would submit his findings to Attorney-General R. Reeder.

Horb, who was stripped of his post as deputy army commander early last month, was reported by the authorities to have hanged himself with a rope made from a short pants he was wearing in his cell at the military police prison in the centre of Paramaribo.

SNA reported that Horb's body was expected to be handed over to relatives today to be prepared for burial. The one-time staunch ally of army strongman Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse was not married.

Meanwhile, SNA said the military police were expected to finish their investigations into the latest coup plot this weekend, after which the case will be handed over to the authorities.

The government-run news agency said the penalty for plotting and organising activities deemed dangerous to the security of the state is a 20-year prison sentence or life imprisonment.

Twenty-one persons, including Horb and two interim government ministers, were picked up by army police in connection with the alleged plot to overthrow the leftwing Bouterse regime, the second in just over a month.

Major Horb was among the 16 leaders of the February 1980 coup that brought the Army to power in the former Dutch colony, but the military leadership said he had fallen from grace after he was implicated in last month's plot.

An official communique read over state radio confirmed Major Horb's death but gave no details.

However, an official source dismissed as "nonsense" reports from abroad that he had been murdered.

The source also said confessions were being obtained from some of the 20 other alleged plotters rounded up last Sunday, who include acting government ministers Jan Sarinam and John Hardjoprajitno.

The source said Mr Hardjoprajitno confessed last night that he was fully aware of the conspiracy against the government.

"He knew of the plans but he failed to inform the government. That is why he was arrested," the source said.

"Confessions are being obtained," he added.